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Champion

16 November 2016 Vol 23 • Issue 46 www.champnews.com

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Town remembers the fallen...

Councillor Neil Furey lays a wreath at Skelmersdale War Memorial

THE town once again paid tribute to those who have suffered or lost their lives serving their country at the annual Remembrance Sunday parade in Skelmersdale on November 13.

Veterans from the services, current military personnel and civic dignitaries were joined by members of the public for the commemorations.

Deputy Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Neil Furey, accompanied by the council's director of leisure and wellbeing, David Tilleray, joined the parade marching from Whitemoss Road to the war memorial on Sandy Lane for a service and wreath-laying ceremony at 11am, which included a minute's silence, Last Post and Reveille.

Corporals Holly Cooper and Alec Felton from 1439 Air Training Corps Skelmersdale had the honour of raising the flag at the ceremony, while corporals Madison Gibbs and Dawid Przybylski laid the squadron's poppy wreath at the memorial.

More pictures inside

NEW CONSULTATION ON FUTURE OF CHILDREN'S CENTRES

Report by **Henry James**

A FURTHER consultation is to be held on the future of two children's centres in Skelmersdale and Up Holland as part of Lancashire County Council plans to change the way front-line services are delivered and save millions of pounds by reducing the number of buildings the authority owns and rents.

The council's cabinet has made a decision to create a network of neighbourhood centres, and deliver services in a different way by 'co-locating' them in the same building, to help towards the £150m savings that need to be made by 2020/21.

A public consultation was held over 12 weeks this summer on changes to a number of services, including proposals that Up Holland Children's Centre should continue to provide services for 0 to 11-year-olds and that St John's Children's Centre in Skelmersdale should no longer be used.

However, feedback received during the consultation was that it would be better to swap around the proposals for the two buildings because St John's Children's Centre is easier for local children and their families to get to. As a result, the council's cabinet decided that further consultation should be carried out.

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St John's Children's Centre in Skelmersdale could be set for a reprieve

Decision

The county council is now consulting on a proposal to continue to use St John's Children's Centre at St John's Catholic Primary School, Flamstead, Birch Green, Skelmersdale, for services for 0 to 11-year- olds and to stop providing services at Up Holland Children's Centre at St Thomas the Martyr CE Primary School, Mill Lane.

The county council would continue to provide 'outreach' services in the Up Holland area, including one-to-one support that would be delivered in family homes, schools, and from other community buildings.

Deputy leader of Lancashire County Council, Councillor David Borrow, said: "We have taken the decision to re-shape services to ensure that people still have good access to them while allowing the council to deliver some of the huge savings we need to make in the coming years.

"The decision we made in early September about how services will be delivered in future reflected the feedback we received during the consultation and included a number of changes to the original proposals.

"At the same time, we decided to allow more time to consider some aspects of the proposals, and having listened to the feedback we received about these children's centres, have decided to consult about continuing to deliver services at St John's Children's Centre, and no longer use Up Holland Children's Centre.

"I'm grateful for people taking the time to let us know what they think and we'll consider all the feedback we receive in making a decision."

The consultation is taking place for four weeks from Monday (November 14) to Sunday, December 11.

People can respond to the consultation by picking up a questionnaire at either of the children's centres, or by going online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/haveyoursay.

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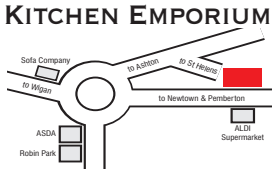

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Council accused of lacking plan for green bin charge

Report by **Henry James**

A WEST Lancs Borough councillor has accused the Labour-controlled authority of introducing the £30 green bin charge with no firm plan about how it will work, leaving residents in the dark about the controversial scheme.

Derby ward Our West Lancashire representative, Councillor Adrian Owens said that when he asked officers charged with operating the new scheme how it would work they were unable to provide answers to any of the question he posed.

Cllr. Owens said: "I asked them when the charge would start – no answer. I asked them how they would tell who had paid the charge and who hadn't – no answer. I asked them whether residents who didn't pay the charge would keep their green bin or would those bins be collected back – again, no answer.

"The decision to introduce this charge flew in the face of the strongest public opposition I can recall. However to make the decision with no plan as to how to carry it out beggars belief!

"No doubt, they will get ideas from the councils who have already gone down this route, but the lack of thought that has gone into this is appalling.

"The council leadership should be ashamed to be making up policy as they go along. They need a plan quickly and they need to let residents know what will happen. The best plan, of course, would be to ditch the idea altogether, but Labour are deaf to that."

A spokesman for the borough council responded: "Council officers did not draw up the final details as to how this scheme would work before it was agreed at the council meeting as to do so would have been a waste of staff resources if the proposal was not proceeded with.

"A team is in place to deliver the project and we have a lot of experience of delivering similar large-scale projects.

"When the charge is introduced next year residents will be able to choose whether or not they wish to use the council's garden waste service. If they do not wish to pay the charge they do not have to use our service and can dispose of their garden waste by other appropriate and legal means.

"Each household that has paid the charge will have its garden waste bin labelled so staff know it is to be emptied. New computer technology in the council's refuse vehicles will also help staff identify which residents have paid the charge.

Publicised

"There will not be any discounts or exemptions to the garden waste service charge. If households wish to use our service they will have to pay.

"Details about the garden waste charge scheme will be provided to all residents, will be publicised and will also appear on the council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/refuse in due course."

Meanwhile the Champion has discovered that West Lancashire's green waste is disposed off by Lancashire County Council after it is collected by the borough council.

John Birch, the county council waste contracts and partnerships manager, said: "We have contracts in place to compost Lancashire's green waste, which ensures it is recycled and does not contribute to landfill.

"West Lancashire's green waste is taken to a local contractor who process it and turn it into compost."

The Champion then asked the county council if any profit was made by the authority in this process, but they did not respond.

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Cabinet agree funding to upgrade Tawd Valley footpaths

WEST Lancs Council's cabinet has agreed to use money donated by housing developers to upgrade public footpaths in Skelmersdale's Tawd Valley Park.

The decision was made at a meeting on Tuesday, November 8, to use £6,254 of S106 monies to help fund the proposed project to improve public access in Tawd Valley Park.

The borough council is currently working with Groundwork Cheshire, Lancashire and Merseyside and the Environment Agency to develop the new public footpath route.

In a report for the meeting, the director of leisure and wellbeing, David Tilleray and the director of development and regeneration, John Harrison wrote: "The new footpath along the River Tawd would involve bank stability works, including natural revetment and erosion control, on sections of the river and construction of a new path on or close to the bank.

"Running for 500 metres from Houghton's Road northwards to Summer Street the path will create an alternative pedestrian route along the riverside to complement the planned Tawd Valley Cycle Route, which moves away from the river at this section due to construction constraints."

It is hoped that the facility will improve accessibility to green space in Skelmersdale, helping to provide opportunities for healthy outdoor recreation.

The officers commented: "This would further the council's aims for improvements to the health and wellbeing of its communities."

The cost of the project is £30,157 and other funds have been granted through external grant schemes including Whitemoss Community Fund £15,903 and Tesco Bags of Help £8,000.

It was feared that without the S106 money the other external funds could have been withdrawn, which would have meant an end to the scheme.

Maintenance of the site will be carried out by the council's Ranger Service.

The Tawd Valley in Skelmersdale

Big Lottery Fund grants for local community groups

Report by **Henry James**

COMMUNITY organisations in Skelmersdale are celebrating after receiving money from the Big Lottery Fund.

They are among the 196 projects which have been given £3.5m across the region.

The SEC Community Hub at the Skelmersdale Ecumenical Centre received £27,324.

Funding for this project will allow the popular community organisation to broaden services and ensure the centre is fully accessible to all.

The facility is well positioned and is an established multi-activity hub used for education, health, social and well-being activities.

A spokesman for the Big Lottery Fund said: "The redevelopment, which includes the addition of a lift, will enable the group to offer a far more holistic support for people of all ages, whatever their needs."

The Melody in Colour project at The Creative Hub, Skelmersdale was given £9,994.

The project will purchase musical instruments and recording equipment to deliver a series of music workshops.

A previous project at Lathom Alternative Arts

The aim is to divert young people in the community away from anti-social behaviour, knife crime, drug use and gang culture.

Lathom Alternative Arts in Skelmersdale received £9,991. This project will offer arts activities focusing on urban arts targeting vulnerable young people identified as at risk of exclusion, excluded and in danger of becoming involved in anti-social activities.

This will offer a diversionary activity in an effort to tackle anti-social behaviour, encourage young people into learning and improve wellbeing.

The Friends of Skelmersdale's Woodland Primary School's Parent and Teachers Association also picked up £7,800. The organisation will purchase mobile allotment pods and equipment for pupils.

This will help them understand more about farming, agriculture and the importance of eating well to improve their health.

Man (56) given 13-year sentence for historic sex offences

Court told victim was left feeling 'dirty and frightened'

Report by **Lynda Roughley**

A WEST Lancashire man who repeatedly sexually assaulted a young girl about 30 years ago has been given a 13-year sentence.

Malcolm Flynn was jailed for 10 years with an extended licence of three years after being convicted of eight sex offences involving indecent assault or indecency with the schoolgirl.

56-year-old Flynn, of Holly Close, Westhead was also ordered to sign on the Sex Offenders Register for life and an indefinite Sexual Harm Prevention Order was also imposed.

Robert Dudley, prosecuting, told Liverpool Crown Court that the offences happened on various occasions.

The girl confided in an uncle when she was 17 and he wanted to confront Flynn but she begged him not to as she feared he would attack Flynn and she did not want her uncle to get into trouble.

She later told other relatives but it was only in early 2015 that she went to the police to complain.

When Flynn was interviewed he denied the allegations.

Jailing him Judge Norman Wright pointed out that nowadays some of the offences Flynn had been convicted of would be charged as oral rape.

The victim, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, read her moving impact statement to the court in which she stated how the abuse had affected her whole life and she suffers from obsessive compulsive disorder, depression and anxiety attacks.

"I feel dirty and frightened and it has ruined my life. Most of the time I don't want to be here and sometimes I think that everyone would be better off without me," she said.

Got a story? Ring the News Desk on 01704 392400

Countdown is on to the big Christmas lights switch-on at Concourse

THE countdown is on to the Christmas lights switch-on at the Concourse shopping centre in Skelmersdale.

The event is taking place this Friday (November 18) when Father Christmas arrives on his sleigh at 4pm, pulled by real reindeer.

The Mayor of West Lancashire Council, Councillor Liz Savage will be performing the official switch-on ceremony.

During the evening there will be a funfair, performers, and giveaways.

There will also be entertainers including The Red Hot Santa band, the Dancing Elves, Rockin' Robins, The Nutkins and The Flying Buttresses.

Youngsters will also be able to see Santa's reindeer at the front of the Concourse.

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Second hospital boss found guilty of gross misconduct

Report by **Ollie Cowan**

Southport Hospital

ANOTHER former senior staff member at Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust has been found guilty of gross misconduct.

Despite the fact she has already resigned from the trust, an investigation into whistle-blowing complaints found former director of human resources, Sharon Partington guilty of gross misconduct

The trust has confirmed that the disciplinary hearings in respect of allegations against Sharon Partington and the former chief operating officer, Sheilah Finnegan, have now concluded.

Ms Partington resigned and Mrs Finnegan retired from the trust's employment prior to the conclusion of the disciplinary process.

However, due to the nature of the allegations and the seniority of those involved, the trust was obliged to complete the disciplinary process, asking the disciplinary panels to consider what, if any action, would have been taken if the individuals had remained employed by the trust.

Following Ms Partington's disciplinary hearing, it was determined that the former director of human resources would have been dismissed as a consequence of gross misconduct had she remained in employment.

Ms Partington has the right of appeal against the decision.

The decision follows the outcome of a disciplinary hearing which reviewed eight allegations of misconduct.

The disciplinary panel found evidence on six counts of misconduct, one of which amounted to gross misconduct.

The independent disciplinary panel considered three allegations of misconduct against Mrs Finnegan and determined that the allegations were not proven. The panel recommended that had Mrs Finnegan remained in employment no disciplinary sanction would have been imposed on her.

The panel hearing the allegations against Mrs Finnegan did note that the case involved serious matters arising from whistle-blowing complaints and noted that the trust "had no option but to instigate a thorough investigation" under the relevant policy and then to refer the outcome of the investigation to a disciplinary hearing.

The panels' recommendations have been fully accepted by the trust board.

Trust chair, Mrs Sue Musson, said: "The overriding objective for the trust has been to handle this very serious and complex matter appropriately and fairly.

"I want to thank the panels for conducting the hearings and reviewing all the evidence so diligently. With the conclusion of these hearings, the four disciplinary cases involving trust senior staff are now complete (subject to appeal).

"The board continues to focus on our key priority, delivering high-quality, sustainable healthcare services to our local population.

"I would like, again, to acknowledge the bravery of the individuals who came forward and spoke out about their concerns. Following this difficult time for everyone concerned, the trust now has an opportunity to focus on the future."

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Commissioners want your ideas on mental health issues in borough

Report by **Henry James**

PEOPLE with an interest in mental health are being encouraged by NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to come forward and help them shape their plans for mental health services in the borough.

A mental health workshop will be taking place at the Artz Centre, Birch Green Road, Skelmersdale on Wednesday, December 7 from noon to to 4pm (with lunch provided).

The aim of the event is to bring together anyone with an interest in mental health to share ideas.

This latest workshop is a follow-up event to two previous ones that have taken place this year, where the CCG worked with local mental health service providers.

Dr Rosalind Bonsor

At this forthcoming event, they will listen to the wider views of people involved in and using mental health services, to help further shape their plans.

In West Lancashire there is a significantly growing number of residents living with mental health conditions, such as depression, stress, ADHD in children and dementia.

Dr Rosalind Bonsor, a GP at Beacon Primary Care and clinical lead for mental health at NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "With one in four people in the UK living with some form of mental health condition, this is a growing concern for the NHS and one that we need to prioritise to ensure that we tailor the right treatment and support for our residents.

"We really want anyone with an interest in mental health, from clinical professionals to members of the public, to join us at the Artz Centre to come and help further develop the CCG's plans."

Following the event in December, further events are planned in February 2017, where guests will be updated on what was taken away from this forthcoming event and developed further.

To register for this event call 01695 588 000 or email info@westlancashireccg.nhs.uk.

Schools urged to get involved in Parliament Week

WEST Lancs MP Rosie Cooper is encouraging schools and community organisations in the borough to get involved during Parliament Week (November 14-20) to learn more about the work of MPs and the government.

UK Parliament Week is an annual programme of events that engages and connects people from across the country with Westminster and its work.

For any school, group or organisation wanting to learn more about how they can take part there is more information available at www.ukparliamentweek.org

Resources such as the UK Parliament Week quiz are available to download from the site.

Participants can also use the #UKPW16 hashtag to find out more information and to get connected with others during the annual event.

Rosie Cooper said: "If you want to learn more about Parliament, its role and the work that goes on then UK Parliament Week is the perfect time to get started.

Rosie Cooper

"Every year more and more events are taking place with more learning resources being made available too.

"I would strongly encourage any school or community group in West Lancashire to take a look at the website and be part of Parliament Week 2016."

The former police point in Digmoor

Bungalow plan for police point approved

A PROPOSAL to convert a police point in Banksbarn, Digmoor, back into a three-bedroom bungalow, has been approved.

The application had been put forward by the borough council and was agreed on by councillors at a meeting of the planning committee on Thursday, November 10.

The police point, which previously provided a place of information about local policing, will now be changed to a residential dwelling.

In a report for the meeting, the director of development and regeneration at West Lancs Council, John Harrison was in favour of the proposal and concluded: "There would be no detrimental impact to the host building or the character of the street scene as a result of the minimal external works.

"Furthermore no impact to neighbouring residents is anticipated and parking requirements, while not being met, can be accommodated on the road without resulting in a highway obstruction."

Football ground application withdrawn

PLANS to create a new football ground for Burscough FC were withdrawn ahead of last week's council meeting after a farmer raised concerns over the provision of alternative land for protected pink-footed geese.

Development company Chequer Properties' planning application was withdrawn from West Lancs Council's planning committee agenda on Thursday, November 10 after further information was received, which indicated that there may be issues in the provision of the alternative land for the pink footed geese.

The application for the replacement ground for the Linnets includes a new pitch, a two-storey, 480-seat main stand and clubhouse, single-storey secondary stand, floodlighting, terracing and a car park to the west of the current ground, with access from Bobby Langton Way.

The plans were submitted to the borough council in August last year. Planning officers had previously recommended that the plans were to be approved at the meeting, before the extra information was provided and the application was withdrawn.

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Winter Warm Scheme offered for fourth year

by Danielle Thompson

Eligible home owners in borough can once again apply to have gas heating appliances serviced or replaced free of charge

ELIGIBLE home owners in West Lancashire can apply now for free gas heating appliance servicing, repair or replacement.

Owner-occupiers in the borough are once again being offered an opportunity to have their gas heating appliances repaired free of charge to help keep them warm and save money on their gas bills this winter.

West Lancs Council has received funding from Lancashire County Council's public health team to offer the West Lancs Winter Warm Scheme for a fourth year.

Limited

Under the scheme, gas heating appliances, including gas fires and boilers, can be repaired or replaced, subject to certain conditions.

The scheme is available to qualifying owner-occupiers who are in receipt of certain benefits, who suffer with certain health conditions and do not have a plan in place that covers boiler repairs.

Councillor Kevin Wright, the council's portfolio holder for health and community safety, said: "This scheme really could help people feel warmer in their homes and I would urge owner-occupiers to check if they are eligible to apply."

Tenants cannot apply as it is landlords' responsibility to maintain or replace any heating appliances including gas boilers.

The scheme will run until March 31 next year but funding is limited so residents are encouraged to apply early.

To find out if you are eligible and apply to the West Lancs Winter Warm Scheme, contact the council's private sector housing team on 01695 585279 or for more information visit westlancs.gov.uk/winterwarm.

Owner-occupiers in West Lancs can apply to the Winter Warm Scheme to help them reduce energy bills this winter

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Sporty primary school in running for county accolade

A SKELMERSDALE school has been shortlisted in the Primary School of the Year category at the Lancashire Sports Awards 2016.

Woodland Community Primary School in Heathgate, Birch Green was recognised for its commitment to sport and staff will find out if they have won at an awards ceremony on Friday, November 25 at The Hilton Hotel in Blackpool.

The school offers a broad range of sports including athletics, football and gymnastics. Throughout the year the school has entered all competitions provided by the School Sport Partnership, SHARES, the Kirkby League and the Everton Festival.

All children in KS1 and KS2 receive at least two sessions of PE during curriculum time. These last for 45 to 60 minutes depending on how old the children are.

One-off fixtures are also played against local schools.

On Monday and Tuesday nights there are sports clubs at the school while more than 40 children are members of their running club on a Friday evening, which is called the Woodland Whippets with parents and former pupils even taking part!

Staff at Woodland also emphasise the Olympic values during classes and an Olympic Week was held at the school earlier this year complete with opening and closing ceremonies.

To win the award Woodland are competing against schools from Blackburn, Burnley, Chorley, Fylde, Rishton, Pendle, Preston, Rossendale, Leyland and Wyre.

Competition organisers have said that the award will be given to the primary school that has "excelled" in school sport and physical activity over the last 12 months.

Vicky Beeley, Year 5 teacher and PE co-ordinator at Woodland, said: "The children are very much involved in all the activities.

"The sports are positive as they teach the youngsters the importance of team work and co-operation.

"Everyone is involved in the activities not just the elite. The sports also help improve the behaviour of the youngsters."

Pupils from Woodland have also been involved in the Rose Cross Country Championship at Bolton at the weekend.

Staff have taken the young people to the 2k Junior Park run in Warrington and the 5k Park Run at Edge Hill University in Ormskirk.

Sporty pupils from Woodland Primary with some of their trophies

Skelmersdale remembers...

Deputy Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Neil Furey and civic heads at Skelmersdale war memorial for the annual Remembrance Sunday service

LEFT: Flight sergeant Adam Blundell from 1439 Air Training Corps Skelmersdale had the honour of carrying the squadron's standard. This was Adam's final parade with the squadron as a cadet. He has carried the squadron's banner on Remembrance parades for the last six years.

RIGHT: Two veterans pay their tribute

LEFT: Members of the armed forces past and present joined civic dignitaries and the public for the annual Remembrance Sunday parade and service

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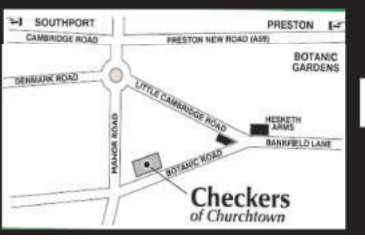

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Deputy mayor presents certificates to Midstream centre achievers

CERTIFICATES of achievement have been presented to clients at Midstream training centre in Skelmersdale.

More than 150 people received their certificates from the Deputy Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Neil Furey at the centre which is based at Penrose Place in the town.

Midstream trains and develops people with learning difficulties and awards them with nationally-recognised certificates like City and Guilds and entry vocational qualifications.

The students accessed the services over the last 12 months.

Clients who attend Midstream are trained in real-life working environments in various occupational areas that include horticulture, landscaping, retail (through the garden centre), crafts, catering and hospitality and business administration.

The services are specifically for people with learning difficulties and Midstream aim to offer a complete package.

Midstream also provides day care as some of the students have personal care needs. Clients that attend Midstream are from the ages of 16 through to retirement.

Anita Cooke, the chief executive of Midstream said: "The achievements of our clients are fantastic. It goes to prove what people with disabilities can do. The clients are extremely proud of their certificates and rightly so.

"Clients start with us from the ages of 16 and we also work with the schools.

"We would like to speak to any employers who would like to work with us and offer work experience placements for our clients."

Councillor Neil Furey with the successful Midstream clients

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper is trying to save sports facilities at the former Glenburn Sports College

Minister responds to MP's questions on future of former Glenburn pitches

Interested parties directed to approach county council in first instance

Report by **Henry James**

A GOVERNMENT minister has finally responded to Rosie Cooper's questions about the future of the £650,000 football pitches at the former Glenburn Sports College in Skelmersdale syaing that anyone interested in using the facilities should contact Lancashire County Council.

The West Lancs MP had tabled four questions to the Department for Education in Parliament on Tuesday, October 18.

These were as follows:

1. To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether her department owns the site of the former Glenburn Sports College in Skelmersdale.

2. To ask the Secretary of State for Education, by what process interested parties in Skelmersdale may express an interest in obtaining the 3G floodlit 11-a-side football pitch at the former Glenburn Sports College site to ensure continued community access to the facility.

3. To ask the Secretary of State for Education what discussions her department has had with Sport England on the future of the 3G floodlit 11-a-side football pitch on the former Glenburn Sports College site in Skelmersdale.

4. To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what plans her department has for the management and future use of the former Glenburn Sports College site in Skelmersdale.

In response to the questions children's minister, Edward Timpson MP, responded: "Ownership of the site of the former Glenburn Sports College is currently under review in the department.

"The site was originally owned by Lancashire County Council and was then transferred to the Glenburn Education Trust when the school became a foundation school.

"However, when the school closed earlier this year, the governing body was required under the law to apply for a Secretary of State determination as to the future of the site. No application was made, and in the absence of a determination, the department is considering a representation from the local authority that the land should revert to them.

"Any parties wishing to express an interest in facilities on the site should approach Lancashire County Council in the first instance, though any plans for future use will be for the eventual agreed holder of the site to take forward.

"The land will continue to be protected under legislation against disposal without the consent of the Secretary of State.

"As part of considering whether to grant consent, the Secretary of State will consider if the land can be redeployed for education."

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Alan Lewis (centre) with representatives from various agencies who attended the Child Sexual Exploitation conference at Skelmersdale's Evermoor Hub

Police chief praises conference to raise awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation

Report by **Henry James**

AN annual conference organised to raise awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Skelmersdale has been praised by Lancashire's police and crime commissioner.

Staged at the Evermoor Hub (formerly Digmoor Community Centre), this year's event was the second time it has been held and a total of 59 young people and four students from Edge Hill University took part.

The conference, which was organised by Skelmersdale Action for Youth (SAY) was opened by police and crime commissioner, Clive Grunshaw who said: "SAY are leading the way during International CSE week."

The event brought together young people, educators, criminal justice agencies, safeguarding agencies and the Community Safety Partnership to discuss what CSE is and the support available to those at risk.

There was also help for those who have been victims or witnessed abuse.

Alan Lewis, a leader at Skelmersdale Action for Youth, commented: "The aim of the second conference was to provide young people with knowledge, information and understanding to be able to identify CSE and how to make it stop.

"One of the key messages for the day was that CSE is not your fault. We advised the young people to tell someone if they see CSE happening.

"It can be very challenging for some children to identify as they are often befriended by the perpetrator who may buy them gifts and give them lots of attention before exploiting them.

"The agencies spoke with the young people to share with them what their roles are in relation to CSE. They also told them what support they can offer.

"CSE affects all aspects of your health and if you have any concerns for yourself or anyone around you, then children should let an appropriate adult know or ring the police on 101."

The volume of child abuse referrals from the police increased to 13,282 in 2015-16, an increase of 442 referrals from 12,840 in 2014-15 and the highest level ever recorded.

Alan Lewis added: "We would like to thank a number of agencies for their support, including: The Duchy of Lancaster fund, the police and the Crown Prosecution Service."

Pupils taking part in the Samba Drumming Day

Youngsters enjoy Samba Drumming Day

YOUNGSTERS at St James' Catholic Primary School in Ashurst enjoyed a music lesson with a difference when they took part in a Sambra Drumming Day.

Each class from Year 1 through to Year 6 over the day had time to play a selection of drums that had been brought in to school especially for the occasion.

And the Samba Day concluded with a performance for the rest of the school by most of Year 5 and 6 pupils.

Head teacher, Dave Iliff said: "The children certainly enjoyed the opportunity to learn about so many different percussion instruments. But what they loved the most was the chance to play. They had so much fun."

The day was organised by music subject leader, Miss Browning.

Pupils swap classroom for council chamber

Pupils and teachers from Cobbs Brow and Wrightington Mossy Lea primary schools with the mayor, Councillor Liz Savage, in the council chamber

PUPILS from West Lancs schools went 'behind the scenes' to find out how the borough council works as part of Local Democracy Week.

The annual event is aimed at helping young people to learn more about their local council and the important role it plays.

Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Liz Savage, welcomed groups of young people to the council chamber for a day which included debates and mock voting exercises.

Children from Cobbs Brow, Skelmersdale and Wrightington Mossy Lea primary schools attended in the morning and pupils from St Bede's Catholic High School, Ormskirk took part in a mock meeting of the council in the afternoon.

Each school appointed a 'chief officer' to help run the meeting alongside the mayor with the remaining children acting as councillors.

The theme of both sessions was 'respect'.

In the morning the pupils put forward their views on encouraging respect for our surroundings on where dogs are allowed to freely be.

In the afternoon the high school pupils considered the theme of respect of council-owned tenanted property and the principles to be included in the tenants' agreement.

Following the debate the pupils cast their votes at the 'polling station' specially set up for them. The idea is to give the children a taste of debating and decision-making processes.

Councillor Savage said: "Holding a mock debate is a lively and interesting way for local children to learn about local government and understand how councils work. I was impressed by the pupils' enthusiasm in the debate and the voting exercise that followed.

"I hope the event really sparked an interest for the pupils and that it will encourage them to take an interest in their local council and some of the decision-making processes that are used."

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MP supports union call for an end to shopworker abuse

Report by **Henry James**

ROSIE Cooper has joined leaders of the retail and service sector union Usdaw in calling for an end to abuse in the workplace.

As part of the Freedom From Fear Campaign, which seeks to prevent violence, threats and abuse directed at retail staff, the union is highlighting the problems faced by staff during Respect for Shopworkers Week (November 14 to 20).

The West Lancs MP said: "Too often retail employees are confronted with violence, threats and abuse while serving the public. It is really important we stand together and ask people to keep their cool and respect shopworkers, especially as we approach the busy Christmas shopping period.

"We must give a clear message that abusing or assaulting workers who are serving the public is totally unacceptable."

"I was personally shocked to hear about the abuse that shopworkers can receive on what can be a daily basis. No one should have to go to work expecting abuse.

"I will continue to campaign with Usdaw to provide shopworkers the support they need and deserve.

"We must give a clear message that abusing or assaulting workers who are serving the public is totally unacceptable."

Ms Cooper's support was welcomed by Usdaw general secretary, John Hannett.

He said: "We are grateful to Rosie Cooper MP for supporting our campaign to keep our members safe at work.

Rosie Cooper MP

"Often, in the course of their duties, shopworkers are expected to deal with tense and difficult situations. Unfortunately these can escalate to verbal abuse and assault.

"Over 300 shopworkers are assaulted every day and it is time to say enough is enough. Parliament has placed the legal obligation on shopworkers to enforce the law in relation to age-restricted sales and Parliament must also ensure that the law also protects shopworkers who are doing their job.

"Politicians and members of the public must work together to ensure that shopworkers get the respect they deserve."

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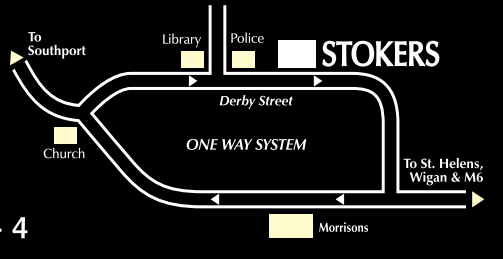

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Lights project improves safety at The Civic

A NEW lighting project has created a brighter future for The Civic in Ormskirk!

The community venue in Southport Road received £1,000 from the Lancashire Environmental Fund, a partnership between SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK Ltd, Lancashire County Council, The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire and Community Futures, which awards grants to community and environmental projects that benefit the county.

This has funded a lighting renewal project throughout the historic building, replacing all existing bulbs with LED (light-emitting diode) ones – so the 115-year-old building is now benefiting from modern, energy-efficient lighting.

Liz Wainwright, one of the managers of The Civic, said that users have told her that the new lighting had made them feel safer and more comfortable.

She said: "The lighting renewal project has had a vital impact on our users. The new front light has improved safety on the front steps, the indoor lighting has improved visibility and the whole project has had a positive impact on our energy usage. This in turn helps to keep our hire prices low.

"We are extremely grateful to the LEF for their support."

For more information on the Lancashire Environmental Fund, visit lancsenvfund.org.uk.

New lighting has been installed at The Civic

Call for knitters to get clicking for charity...

KEEN knitters are being urged to get clicking to help an older people's charity!

Age UK has teamed up with drinks manufacturer Innocent to host their 13th Big Knit challenge, making small bobble-hats to adorn the company's smoothie bottles.

For each be-hatted smoothie sold, Innocent will donate 25p to help Age UK fund national and local projects that keep older people warm and well in winter.

The target for knitted hats in Lancashire is 2,000 by January. Stephanie Tufft, chief officer of Age UK Lancashire said: "We are calling on local knitters to get as many hats as possible to us by January 20."

Every hat donated to Age UK Lancashire will help fund local services which help older people access unclaimed benefits and support to live more comfortably, particularly in winter.

For more information contact Age UK Lancashire on 0300 303 1234. Knitted hats can be dropped into the nearest Age UK Lancashire shop, office or day centre.

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We will continue to resist 'unwanted and unwarranted' developments

I MUST thank the 'unnamed' Aughton resident(s) for their recent letters criticising the Aughton Residents Group's efforts, which serve to keep these ongoing issues of housing developers' appeals under the spotlight and keep local interested residents updated.

Without knowing exactly where the unnamed person(s) lives - 1.1 miles from Parrs Lane? - it is hard to be specific, but unless they live permanently with their head(s) stuck in the sand, I suspect that over the past few years they may have encountered or at least heard of other groups of concerned Aughton residents showing their resistance to unwanted development applications/plans on prime green belt land - retirement/dementia village, Prescot Road; solar panel farms (and diesel generator compound), Gerard Hall Prescot Road, Back Lane and Formby Lane; retirement village, Winifred Lane.

All of these plans / applications were strongly contested by Aughton residents and they were either withdrawn or refused.

Developers have been after the Parrs Lane land for at least 30 years and now is the nearest they've been to getting permission to turn this beautiful, best and most versatile productive farmland into a giant housing estate of some 400-plus houses (including the Prescot Road site) together with its accompanying problems which if it goes ahead will permanently alter the characteristics of this rural area.

Profit-driven developers show little or no concern for the views of or the effects on the local community or the 'legacy' that these huge developments would create and simply move around the country sometimes, as in our case. submitting 'rogue' applications contrary to Local Plans.

In the unnamed Aughton resident's letter of November 2 they raise the question of the use of the 'scant' WLBC resources and asks who's in charge of making decisions. I hope that the answer to this will never reach the stage when the developers are in charge and tell the council where and when they wish to build.

It is for those reasons that WLBC have chosen to challenge the Planning Inspector's decision relating to the building of 150 homes on Prescot Road, whilst the application to build 250 houses on Parrs Lane is still pending a decision from the Planning Inspector.

Aughton Residents Group (2012), and I hope other Aughton residents, will continue showing resistance to unwanted and unwarranted development applications.

Colin Atkinson, chairman of Aughton Residents Group (2012)

Noise and disturbances from Edge Hill will go on despite residents' group's efforts

I WRITE to remind the New Ormskirk Residents Group (Letters, October 26) about the judgment that went against us with regards to Edge Hill University in 1999.

We built a bungalow off Ruff Lane adjacent to the university (college of education as it was then) and we had 10 years of hell.

What did we expect living next to an educational establishment? Some noise certainly, of normal day-to-day activities and events. What we endured was screaming and shouting from drunken students on the campus outside our property three or four times a week, well into the early hours sometimes. Riding around on supermarket trolleys, jumping over cars in stages of undress (captured on video) were just some of their frolics.

We had many meetings with the college and promises that they would address the issue, many visits from West Lancs Council environmental officers who eventually informed us that what they had witnessed was a Statutory Noise Nuisance and an Abatement Notice would be served. This was never done as apparently the council didn't know who to serve it on.

I wanted to move and we did put the bungalow up for sale at one point, but the noise issues had to be declared and deterred potential buyers.

No-one could help us, not the police, not the council and all we got from the college was platitudes, and over the years the situation got worse rather than better.

We had no choice but to take the college to court for noise nuisance and for them to establish some control of their campus. As the hearing drew near, the college started to put measures in place to improve the situation, providing minibuses to run students back into town, rather than rampaging round, and locking the back entrance to deter students milling around.

We were then offered £7,000 to drop the case. This we agreed to do if they would keep these measures in place. They would not agree to this, so we felt we had to choice but to proceed.

After a week's stressful trial, the judge dismissed the case and it seemed we were now the 'villains'. He said our claim was 'exaggerated' and that the level of noise which existed was 'not such as to unduly interfere with the use or enjoyment of the claimant's land.'

So the case was dismissed and we had to pay costs of £100,000.

We have moved on, but week in, week out, year after year, as shown by your readers' letters, the noise and disturbances emanating from Edge Hill continue to affect people's lives, and sadly, NORG, this will continue.

Ruth Beaumont, by email

PICTURE of the week

There was a carpet of golden leaves for walkers in last Saturday's event organised by fostering group Parallel Parents who completed several circuits of Hesketh Park to raise funds for Children in Need. Picture by Martyn Snape.

Cyclists should brighten up and drivers need to watch their speed

REGARDING your timely article (Champion, October 26) about children being seen and safe during the dark evenings, recently while driving up Swanpool Lane at 7.40pm I encountered four teenage boys riding bicycles on the road. Not only were they wearing dark clothing, but none of the bicycles had lights.

Neither I nor the driver in front could see the boys until we were on top of them.

I initially wondered why the driver ahead had suddenly swung out into the opposite lane on a dark and apparently traffic-free road ahead.

The cyclists could not be seen until one was within a couple of feet of them.

Cars still drive up and down Swanpool Lane at 40 mph (even though the limit is 20mph). These boys would not have stood a chance.

David Gordon, Swanpool Lane, Ormskirk

Independent sector provider's services still free for patients

IN response to Mr C. Carr's letter (September 28) we wanted to clarify the arrangements with PDS Medical.

PDS Medical is an independent sector provider which delivers tier 2 cardiology and direct access diagnostic services locally. The cost for this service to the NHS is the same and it remains free for patients.

PDS Medical was contracted to help with demand and capacity issues we were experiencing. Not only did we need to increase capacity, we also wanted to deliver the service efficiently and safely, and accessible from people's homes.

The provider has helped to reduce the waiting times for ECGs from the trust, and the move to electronic reports for GPs has also helped the system improve.

GPs should continue to offer patient choice. However, some providers do not publish their waiting times on the system which means GPs cannot always see this level of information.

In terms of your other point about room rental, the CCG is not responsible for the contractual arrangements relating to GP property as that responsibility lies with NHS England. However, we will discuss the point you raise with the team.

NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Nowhere to park at station

ONE of the things I have enjoyed about Ormskirk is the great train service to Liverpool.

For years I have been leaving my car in the station car park and jumping on the train, so I was pleased to see an extension being created from the patch of rough ground that I nearly always ended up parking in.

Now all we have is a newly-surfaced area, with a big fence around it, completely unusable!

Several times I have arrived at the station and there is nowhere to park. Is anyone else finding this a problem, and if so what are they doing?

P. O., by email

Beware burglars 'marking your card'

WITH regards to your article on dognapping (Skelmersdale Champion, October 26) and three coloured marks on the outside of the house.

This is not always for dognapping. Some years ago the same system was used to inform burglars who worked in gangs and worked set areas each evening. A set colour for no dog. B other colours to denote size of dog.

This time of the year with Christmas coming burglars start to work overtime, so it's very important to make sure the house is secure before going to bed.

D. W., Skelmersdale (name & address supplied)

■ LETTERS to the editor should preferably be no more than 350 words long and include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication.

Correspondents preferring not to have their name and/or their address published may provide a suitable nom de plume.

The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

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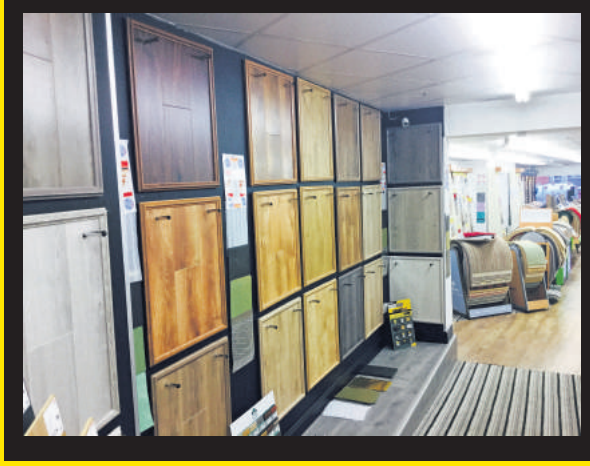

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Our Jim is highly commended at regional media awards

THE Champion's 'One Man and His Dog' columnist, Jim Sharpe, was highly commended in the finals of a regional media award.

Jim, who has reported for the Aintree and Maghull Champion for more than 20 years, beat stiff competition to reach the final four of the nominations in the O2 Media Awards 'Stand Out' category - an award which recognises outstanding achievement among individuals in journalism.

Jim was nominated for the award after the way he astonished colleagues, readers (and hospital staff!) when he managed to pen his column just days after suffering a serious heart attack in May which left him in an induced coma in Aintree Hospital for five days.

He astounded nurses with his quick recovery and managed to submit his 'One Man and His Dog' column from his hospital bed - just a day after coming out of his induced coma, so as not to miss the next edition of the Champion.

He received his Highly Commended certificate at the O2 Media Awards which were held at Chester Racecourse on Thursday, November 10.

The Champion Newspaper Group was also Highly Commended in the Free Distribution Newspaper category.

Jim Sharpe

Health chiefs in call to examine your options to stay healthy this winter

Report by **Ollie Cowan**

TO coincide with Self Care Week (November 14 to 20) health chiefs are encouraging people to be aware of how they can look after themselves this winter and to examine their options should they become ill.

They advise that by keeping fit and healthy, individuals can take control of their own health, manage minor illnesses and effectively manage long-term conditions.

Anyone needing further help is advised to think about using NHS 111 as they can direct you to the appropriate service; or go to your local chemist who can offer assistance on minor ailments and common illnesses.

Claire Heneghan, chief nurse of NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), said: "It's important that people know when and how they can treat themselves and when they should seek further advice. By taking simple steps to look after yourself this winter, you can have a significant impact on your health and wellbeing."

Dr Robert Caudwell, chair of NHS Southport and Formby CCG, added: "When it comes to treating minor ailments and illnesses, it's important to examine your options. You can get plenty of advice from your local chemist as well as on the NHS Choices website. Remember, the accident and emergency departments and ambulance services are for life-threatening conditions. By selecting the right option, you can help the NHS to direct their focus to the patients who need it the most."

Self Care Week complements the national Stay Well This Winter campaign, encouraging people to look after themselves during the winter months – reminding them to see a pharmacist if they need advice on managing cough or cold symptoms; and for older people, a reminder to keep warm during the winter months by putting on an extra layer or turning up their heat.

More information on how everyone can use self-care to improve their health and wellbeing is available on the NHS Choices website at www.nhs.uk.

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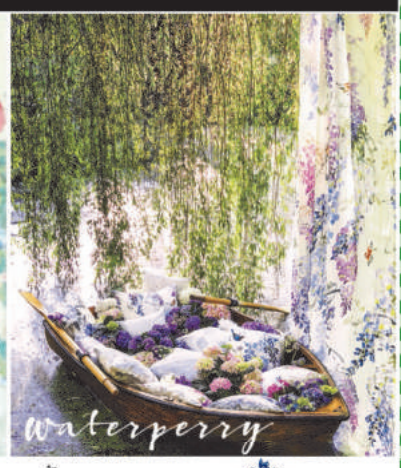

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80s night raises £500 for mayor's charities

DISCO fans took a step back in time to raise money for local good causes when they attended an 80s-themed music evening.

The Nostalgia Disco event, held at The Civic in Southport Road, Ormskirk, raised £500 for this year's Mayor of West Lancs Charity Appeal.

The mayor, Councillor Liz Savage is supporting four local charities - The Civic; the Birchwood Centre and the Artz Centre, both in Skelmersdale; and Ormskirk Hospital's neonatal unit.

Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Liz Savage and her charity committee members Liz Wainwright and Gemma Briscoe are pictured with DJs Paul, John and Mark setting up the 80s disco.

College students tackle digital skills project

STUDENTS from West Lancashire College are boosting their digital know-how, as part of a project to bridge the skills gaps in the sector.

The Digital Advantage pilot has been developed by working with industry leaders from the private sector, to help students improve their digital skills and knowledge.

It will help teachers and students to gain more understanding about digital businesses, and find out how to get into the industry, as well as giving them masterclasses in digital skills delivered by experts.

Skills needed in the digital sector include web design, advertising, software development, marketing, social media, mobile technology and e-commerce. The new Digital Advantage programme starts this month and runs until April next year.

Ten schools and colleges from throughout Lancashire will take part in the pilot, developed by the county council's Creative Lancashire team, in collaboration with the Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub, part of the Lancashire Enterprise Partnership.

The programme is designed and delivered by Manchester-based The White Room which provides training and apprenticeships for companies working in or with digital media, from short-courses and apprenticeships, to large business change programmes.

MPs on the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee have warned that the UK needs an additional 745,000 workers with digital skills by 2017.

Influence

Ed Matthews-Gentle from Creative Lancashire explained: "Digital Advantage is part of our plans to tackle a lack of skills and experience in the digital sector, and businesses in other sectors who are reliant on the same skills.

"The programme is part of our efforts to address this issue around capacity here in Lancashire, and also influence the learning culture through increased knowledge exchange with the industry to supply a future workforce that's fit for purpose and can fuel the local economy."

Lisa Moizer from the Lancashire Skills and Employment Hub added: "We set up this project in response to feedback from Lancashire employers in the creative and digital sector, to help schools and colleges to equip their pupils with the skills and knowledge for a career in this type of creative and innovative work."

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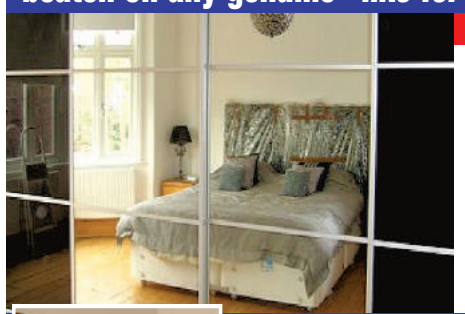

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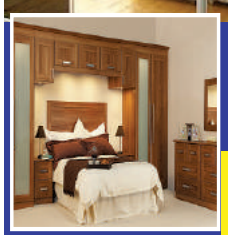

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Pollsters undone by Political Correctness...

THREE elections, three 'shock' results.

First our own General Election won by the Conservatives. Then the Brexit vote, with a result few really expected. And now the American Presidential election where the result seems to have taken the world by surprise.

On the night of the US election I stayed up until about 12.30am and despite early results going in Trump's direction, all the TV pundits were still predicting a victory for Hilary Clinton. Of course, by the time I got up in the morning everything had been stood on its head.

Apart from the results, these three elections had at least one thing in common – the so-called opinion polls got it all wrong.

Mind you, frankly the American result hardly came as a shock to me. I mean, there was the most powerful nation in the world going to the polls to elect its leader with the two most unpopular candidates the voters have ever been faced with. Personally, had I had the chance to vote, I wouldn't have, if you see what I mean.

But it seems to me that the pollsters regularly fail to take into account the simple fact that in modern-day elections at any rate, the underdog somehow still seems to win.

And in my simplistic way, I reckon I know exactly why. The simple answer is that in each of these three recent elections, what people say and what they mean are often very different.

It doesn't take a genius to work out why either. I reckon it's my old enemy, Political Correctness.

In certain parts of the UK it is regarded as de rigour to vote a certain way. You don't walk into a pub in a staunchly socialist area and say you thought Margaret Thatcher was a wonderful Prime Minister. Nor would you pontificate in a staunchly Tory market town about the glories of a socialist government. And throughout the country, most people think it is expected that you should make fun of the Lib Dems, though in fact, many people, particularly in local elections, do vote for them.

Who would have predicted the almost total collapse of the Labour vote in Scotland? No opinion polls, that's for sure. And if the same people had been right, we would still firmly be in the European Union.

I don't know how the compilers of opinion polls can get round the fact that many people say what they feel they are expected to say, even though in their hearts they know that is not the way they are going to vote. Happily, compiling opinion polls is not my job. But it seems to me that until they can get it into their heads that because a person might believe in, say, restoring smoking in pubs, they are unlikely ever to say so publicly.

Perhaps the only time you can do so is when a thing appears so unlikely as to be seen as simply silly, there is no danger in just appearing to be a buffoon. Not that many years ago, because I genuinely felt strongly about it, I would, given the chance, voice my opinion that we should leave the European Union. The usual response to that most unlikely (at the time) scenario was laughter.

Well, he who laughs last, etc.

Of course, politicians don't help themselves either. As representatives of the Government of this country, they surely have a duty to uphold the will of its people? Yet, for instance, several 'remain' campaigners in the Brexit election seem hell-bent on wrecking negotiations with the EU. And close though that vote was in percentage terms, the 'leave' campaigners won by a very substantial number of voters.

Anyway, the Americans may yet rue the day they elected Donald Trump as President - though whether Hilary would have been any better is debatable.

The losers, yet again, are the pollsters and pundits trying to tell them what they should do.

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Social media campaign aims to raise awareness of Lancashire Day

Report by **Henry James**

MARKETING Lancashire, the organisation charged with growing the county's visitor economy and developing it as a great place to visit, work and invest, has launched a social media campaign to help raise awareness of Lancashire Day which takes place each year on November 27.

As part of the campaign social media users are being asked to illustrate their love of Lancashire and its landscape, food and culture with photography tweeted on Twitter using #LancashireDay or posting on the Visit Lancashire Facebook or Instagram pages.

The campaign will run until November 30 and Lancastrians all over the world are being encouraged to share their favourite images of the county.

On the day itself, Sunday, November 27, Lancastrians out and about enjoying the county, posting their images, may also win one of a number of spot prizes.

All tweets and posts between now and November 30, using #LancashireDay, will be included in a Grand Lancashire Day prize draw, to win an Escape for the Night package for two at Stanley House Hotel & Spa in the Ribble Valley, and a year's supply of Dewlay Lancashire Cheese.

West Lancashire's town crier, Don Evans, is a keen supporter of Lancashire Day

Last year a similar campaign reached more than 40 million people in 816 locations worldwide with #LancashireDay trending on Twitter on November 27 by 9am in the morning.

Head of PR and communications at Marketing Lancashire, Anna Izza, said: "We all have our favourite places to visit, a view or location that has special meaning, a restaurant, pub or café where we meet friends, celebrate special occasions and create great memories.

"Lancashire Day gives us the opportunity to share these and bring friends and relations, in countries across the globe, a little bit closer to home.

"Tell your Lancashire story through pictures and together we'll show the world what it means to be Lancastrian."

For information on how to take part and full terms and conditions go to visitlancashire.com/lancashireday where you'll also find ideas and events to celebrate Lancashire Day.

Closing date for the draw is Wednesday, November 30 and the winner will be notified by the end of December.

Staff and visitors at the charity baking event at Arden Lea Nurseries

Gardeners rise to baking challenge

A GROUP of green-fingered gardeners turned over a new leaf when they swapped baking for planting to raise funds for a West Lancashire children's charity.

Director Stuart Taylor and staff and visitors at Arden Lea Nurseries in Hesketh Bank created a range of delicious sweet and savoury treats.

Donations of £5 were then taken to sample them all, raising £200 for Mawdesley-based conductive education centre, Rainbow House.

The staff also judged the cakes to find the best baker, the accolade going to visitor Irene Iddon from Hesketh Bank with her custard slice with a lemon twist.

Other tasty entries included bread, quiche, Thai fishcakes with coconut and coriander, chocolate and watermelon cakes, gingerbread with lemon icing, chocolate and strawberry cake, lemon fancies, chocolate orange cake, Italian cake and plum cake.

Carole Cochrane, chief executive officer at Rainbow House, said: "We really appreciate the support of Stuart and the staff at Arden Lea Nurseries - a big thank-you to all who took part."

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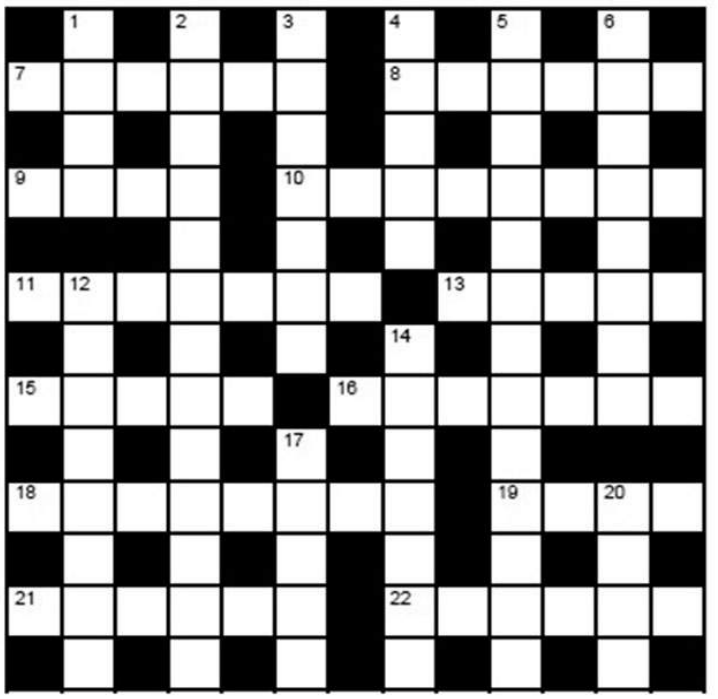

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7 Ordain. 8 Reason. 9 Worn. 10 Rooftree. 11 Tensile. 13 Melon. 15 Agony. 17 Elision. 20 Overflow. 21 Flaw. 22. Trusty. 23. Riddle.

Down: 1 Groove. 2 Tarn. 3 On a roll. 4 Drool. 5 Waitress. 6 Bolero. 12 Sundress. 14 Blow dry. 16 Govern. 18 Oracle. 19 Clwyd. 21 Fade.

ACROSS

7 Four score (6)
8 Proliferate (6)
9 Move up and down, fluctuate (2-2)
10 On the inside (8)
11 Turn at batting in cricket (7)
13 Customary (5)
15 Baby carriage (5)
16 Retort (7)
18 Rectangular column projecting from a wall (8)
19 Contest that ends all square (4)
21 Person who looks very much like another (6)
22 Papal ambassador (6)

DOWN

1 System of electronic credit transfer between banks, post offices etc (4)
2 Area with targets for controlled firearms practice (8,5)
3 Instrument used to inject or withdraw fluids from the body (7)
4 Belief, trust (5)
5 Comparable (13)
6 Medicinal preparation that is breathed in (8)
12 Inflammation of peripheral nerve or nerves (8)
14 Full of energy, lively (7)
17 Desolate, bare (5)
20 Operatic solo song (4)

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More than half of patients struggle to complain about care

MORE than half of patients in Lancashire struggle making a complaint, according to a report by a health watchdog.

Healthwatch Lancashire, the public voice on health and social care in the county, have released their Feedback and Complaints report which reveals that more than half of the 136 people spoken with found it hard to make a complaint and were not happy with the outcome.

The report studied how easy people find it to share feedback with local services and, if they have made a complaint, how they feel about the process and the outcome they received.

It showed that 55% of those spoken to found it difficult to make a complaint and the same number were unhappy with the outcome due to a lack of information, poor communications and difficulties with the complaints process.

Another 52% said that they felt they needed to complain to a health and social care service in the last 12 months but decided not to. For a quarter of those, the main reason they didn't complain was fear of repercussion, whilst 19% said they didn't know who to speak to.

The report highlights that the majority of complaints related to hospitals, with 47% of those surveyed saying they made a complaint getting no response or action.

A new report has found that half of patients find it hard to complain about their care

In addition, Healthwatch Lancashire has identified a trend of people with mental health concerns not being able to get the support they need through the complaints process. This has been picked up through a large volume of telephone calls the group has received over the past 12 months.

Healthwatch Lancashire chief officer, Sheralee Turner-Birchall , said: "We would like to thank all members of the public who shared their valuable feedback both through our online survey and at our engagement activities at GP practices, hospitals, pharmacies and community group workshops.

"The findings have been shared with those who plan, run and regulate health and social care services within Lancashire including NHS England, clinical commissioning groups, Lancashire County Council and the Care Quality Commission."

The full report 'Sharing your feedback & complaints in Lancashire' is available to read and download from the Healthwatch Lancashire website at www.healthwatchlancashire.co.uk/reports.

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Animal sanctuary's 'buy a bale' plea

Report by **Louisa Austin**

AS temperatures begin to drop volunteers at a West Lancashire animal charity are appealing to the public to help 'bale' them out this winter.

The Woodlands Animal Sanctuary, in Holmeswood desperately needs hay and straw for many of its 'residents' and the amount required increases throughout the colder months.

A spokesperson for the sanctuary said: "The amount of hay and straw we go through in winter is immense. This year we are asking people to support our donkeys, ponies and goats by 'buying a bale'.

"It costs approximately £3,400 annually to provide hay and straw for the animals in our care. Helping to support us in this way over the winter period will free up our already stretched funds to allow us to continue helping more animals that need our care over the upcoming festive period."

For more information or to offer your help call Woodlands on 01704 823293.

Woodlands Animal sanctuary ponies Dolly and Beanie

Heritage group meeting

THE next meeting of the West Lancashire Heritage Association will feature a costume dramalogue entitled 'Margaret Paston - a Medieval Life' performed by Lizzie Jones.

This will be held at Hurlston Hall Golf Club, Scarisbrick on Friday, November 18, starting at 7pm. Tickets for the event, which include light refreshments, are £7 for members, £10 for non-members and can be ordered by calling 01704 821304.

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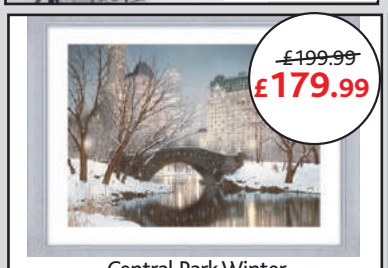

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Council's annual housing report lists achievements

Savings and support for tenants highlighted

MORE than 600 West Lancs Council tenants have moved into new homes in the past year.

That is just one of the 'excellent achievements' highlighted in the authority's latest housing and inclusion service annual housing report.

Others include:

•Installing solar panels in 588 council properties, saving tenants money on their energy bills.

•Saving £500,000 by improving how they work and saving on staff costs.

•Supporting 2,000 tenants by providing rent and money advice.

The annual report also tells tenants how much rent was collected in the course of 2015/16 and how their rent is spent.

Councillor Jenny Patterson

There is information on how many homes received repairs to bathrooms, kitchens and heating and the total amount all the repairs cost.

And other work highlighted includes the management of people's tenancies, including visits to new tenants and inspection of communal areas.

In total the council provides more than 6,000 homes for tenants.

Councillor Jenny Patterson, portfolio holder for housing and landlord services, said: "The housing and inclusion service staff can be very proud of the work they do and this report contains many facts and figures that tenants will be very interested in.

"The service continues to provide excellent value for money through our partnerships and tendering processes by ensuring we get the best quality at the best price."

To view the report go to westlancs.gov.uk/har.

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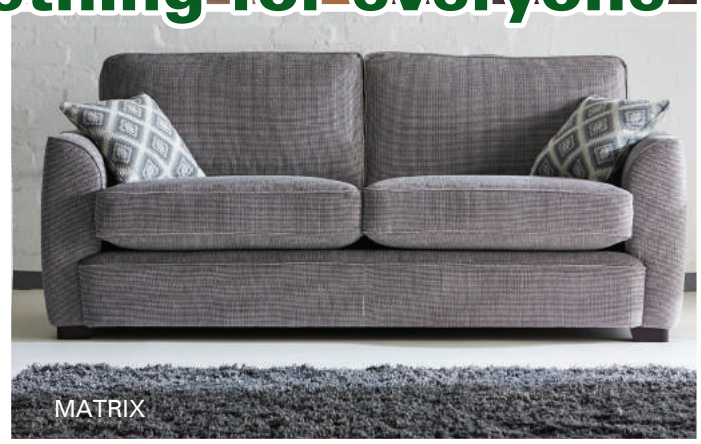

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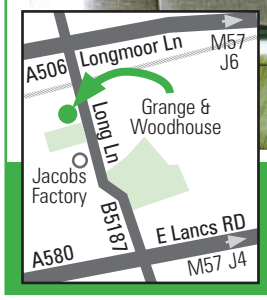

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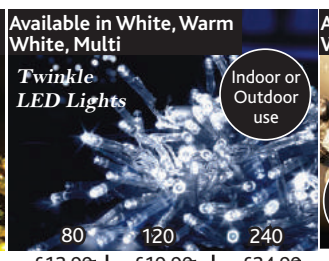

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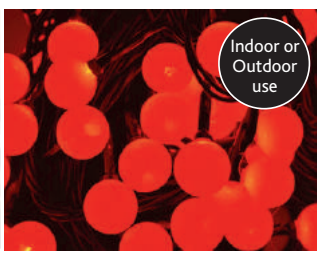

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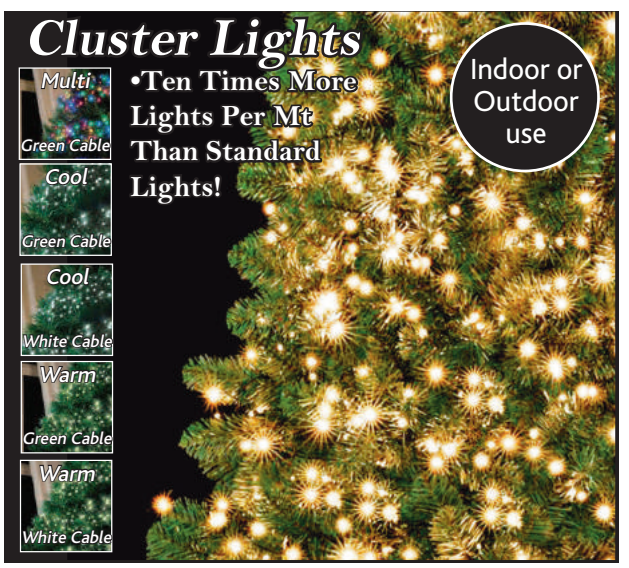

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Care trust's nurse recruitment drive

LANCASHIRE Care NHS Trust is holding a recruitment drive to find new nurses.

The provider offers a range of health and wellbeing services across the county and the surrounding areas and is on the lookout for innovative, hard-working registered general and mental health nurses who are passionate about providing excellent patient care.

Damian Gallagher, director of human resources at the trust, said: "Our staff are absolutely our most valuable asset and we're extremely proud of our nursing workforce.

"We're on the lookout for people who are passionate about providing high quality care and want to come to work to make a difference. If this sounds like something you are interested in please get in touch with us to find out more."

For details go to www.lancashire-care.nhs.uk/nurse-recruitment.

County health chiefs support National HIV Testing Week

WEST Lancs residents who are at risk of contracting HIV are being urged to take a test.

Health experts from Lancashire County Council are urging members of the public to take a test during National HIV Testing Week, which begins on Saturday (November 19).

The aim of the week is to help to stop the spread of the infectious, but preventable disease.

Every year between 6,000 and 7,000 people are diagnosed with HIV in England and more than 103,000 people are living with HIV across the country, including 650 in Lancashire.

Information events will be run in West Lancashire on Monday, November 21.

These will be at the Concourse shopping centre, Southway, Skelmersdale from 10am to noon and at Edge Hill University, St Helens Road, Ormskirk from 2 to 4pm.

County Councillor Azhar Ali

County Councillor Azhar Ali, Lancashire's cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "We're pleased to be supporting National HIV Testing Week in Lancashire.

"A quarter of people with HIV don't know they have it and that's a real problem. If you're concerned at all, this is a great time to get checked out.

"Of course you can book a test at a number of places including your local GP, GUM clinic or sexual health service at any time. You can also order a sample kit to be delivered to your home, so you can take the test there."

Anyone wanting a test can contact the sexual health services in Lancashire on 0300 123 6750, Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.30pm or to order a free home test kit, visit www.test.hiv.

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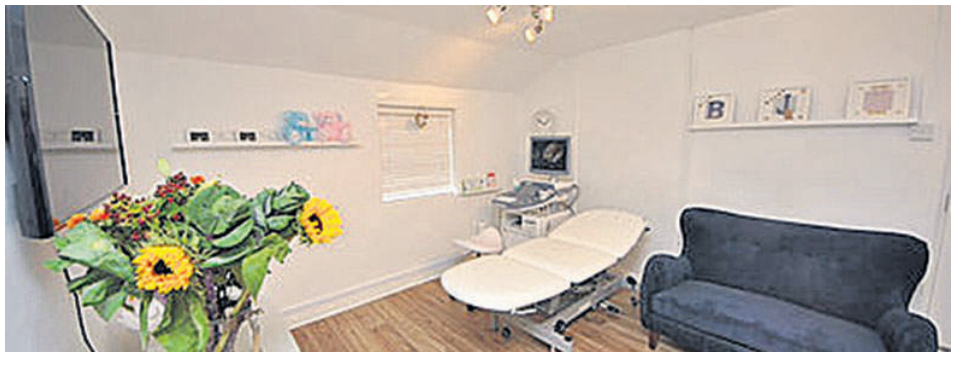
The scans normally take around 15-30 minutes but sometimes baby may need encouragement to move. A stroll around the lovely shops, nearby botanical gardens or even a quick visit to the one of the local tearooms has been known to move the most stubborn of babies.



As well as 3D/4D bondings scans we offer reassurance scans, gender scans, presentation scans and gift vouchers. No doctors referral required.

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Bid to boost charity coffers

VOLUNTEERS at the Children's Society's charity shop in Church Street, Ormskirk are holding a fundraising coffee morning at The Civic in Southport Road on Thursday (November 17).

The event will run from from 10.30am to noon and will feature coffee, tea, toasted tea cakes, cakes and biscuits, as well as stalls and a raffle.

The Children's Society in Lancashire supports children at risk of or affected by sexual exploitation, those who go missing from home and those in care, as well as providing 'early intervention' support for families who need it.

Charity shop manager, Heather Jones, said: "We can't wait for our coffee morning in the grand surroundings of The Civic. It's a chance for our staff and volunteers to take a step back from their hard work and have a chat over a cuppa with both regular customers and anyone else interested in finding out more about what we do.

"It's also a great cause which will help to raise vital funds for The Children's Society's work supporting some really vulnerable children."

Tickets for the coffee morning cost £2.50 and are available from the shop in advance or on the door.

● *THE Aughton fundraising branch of North West Cancer Research are hosting a Christmas coffee morning from 10am to noon on Tuesday, November, 22 at the Women's Institute Hut, Town Green Lane.*

Entrance costs £2, which includes tea or coffee and a mince pie, and there will be stalls selling homemade cakes, handmade charity Christmas cards, books, jewellery and small Christmas gifts.

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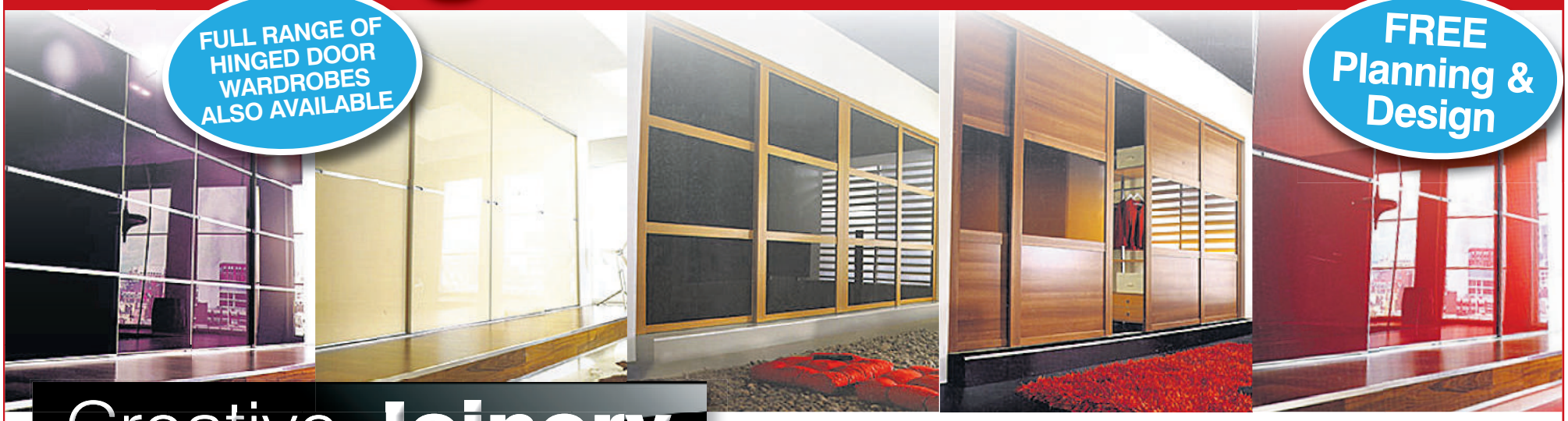

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County revealed as a 'loneliness hot spot' by older folks charity

Helpline has received more than 38,000 calls from Lancashire since launch three years ago

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

The Silver Line's founder, Dame Esther Rantzen

LANCASHIRE has been named as a 'loneliness hot spot' by a charity for older people.

Staff at the Silver Line Helpline, a charity for isolated pensioners based in Blackpool looked at data from more than a million calls that its helpline received since national launch in November 2013, to pinpoint the areas where most of their calls come from across England.

They found that 38,450 calls were made from Lancashire, the highest amount for any areas. In Lancashire, two thirds of the calls were made during the night or weekends.

The Silver Line is the only free, national, confidential helpline open every day and night, offering information, friendship and advice to older people. Two-thirds of calls are made at night-times and weekends - over 700,000 of the calls received by the helpline so far.

As well as the helpline, the charity has 3,000 volunteers who make regular friendship calls, or exchange letters with older people. The charity also makes a further 2,500 'keeping in touch' calls every week to isolated older people.

The Silver Line's founder, Dame Esther Rantzen, said: "Every day we hear from lonely older people who have led interesting lives but are now isolated, utterly alone and literally have no one to speak to for days on end.

"Calls come from virtually everywhere in the UK – places as different as the rural north of Lancashire and urban Burnley – but alike in that older people are experiencing the same loneliness. Our figures show there are lonely older people living in every street, in every community and we know that for many night-times are the worst for them. That's why it is vital we are there when no other helpline is available for older people who may be lonely, isolated or confused."

The Silver Line relies entirely on donations to keep the helpline going and pay for friendship calls between volunteer Silver Line Friends and older people.

The growing demand from lonely older people means The Silver Line now needs to raise £1.65 million to pay for the night-time and weekends service. It fears that without more public donations the vital service may have to close. For more information visit thesilverline.org.uk.

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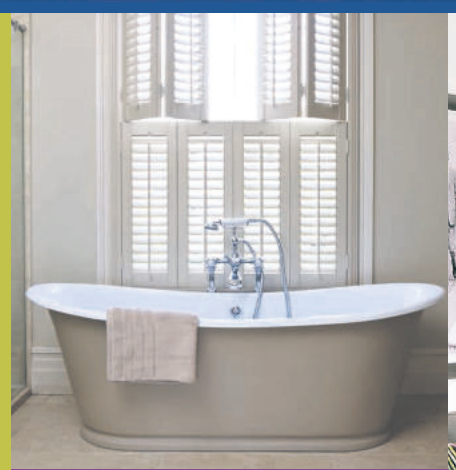

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Survey finds borough care home staff face problems gaining access to dental services for residents

Report by **Henry James**

CARE home staff in West Lancashire have the most difficulty in the county in gaining access to dental care services for their residents.

That is according to the results of a Healthwatch Lancashire report into dental care services, which has revealed that more than half of 62 care homes in the county said they had difficulties accessing dental services with those with poor mobility or dementia most at risk.

A total of 14 care homes took part in West Lancashire - Stocks Hall Nursing Home, Burscough; Stocks Hall Nursing Home, Skelmersdale; Aaron Crest Care Home; Beacon View Home for Older People; The Spinney Nursing Home; Abbey Wood Lodge Care Home; Springfield Court Nursing Home; Asmall Hall Care Home; Aughton Park Care Home; Silver Birch Lodge; Lindsay House; Willow Lodge; Courtfield Lodge; and Arranmore Park Care Home.

The survey showed that when employees in the borough were asked if they had experienced difficulties on gaining access to dental services 79 per cent said they had. The lowest in the county was in Fylde and Wyre where only 10 per cent had experienced issues.

Responses from employees in West Lancashire included: "There are massive issues in this area"; "Reasonably timed appointments are difficult to get; dentists usually want to make an appointment at a time that doesn't suit"; "90% of the time we have difficulty getting dental services for residents. There is only one dentists who works in the area and they cancel appointments. Sometimes it can be up to six weeks wait for an appointment."

Sheralee Turner-Birchall, chief officer of Healthwatch Lancashire, said: "We were able to respond to feedback we gathered from care home staff across Lancashire to highlight difficulties residents are experiencing when accessing services.

Sheralee Turner-Birchall, chief officer at Healthwatch Lancashire

"I would like to thank NHS England for considering the findings from this project and for providing a response to our report."

Jackie Forshaw, head of primary care, NHS England, Lancashire, commented: "We welcome the results of the study and it's good to see that overall 86% of care home representatives said that they feel their residents have access to effective dental care.

"The study has enabled us to take a closer look at this group of patients and what we can do to further improve services for them.

"The local dental network is now working on a number of new initiatives to widen access for patients, including a focus on facilitated access for the elderly and supporting care homes across Lancashire in relation to oral health for residents."

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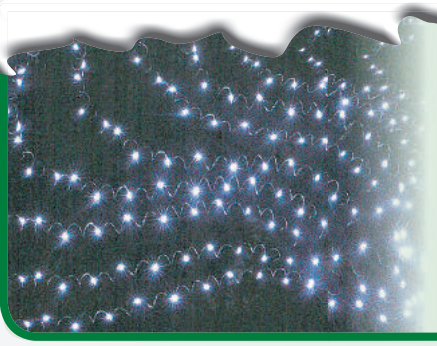

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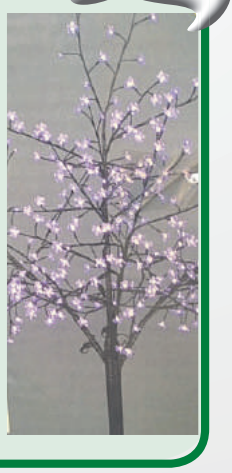

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Borough quartet commended in county tourism awards

FOUR businesses from West Lancashire were commended after reaching the finals of the 2016 Lancashire Tourism Awards.

Marketing Lancashire, the county's destination management organisation, revealed the winners of the awards, which are now in their 13th year, at an awards ceremony at Blackburn Cathedral last week.

Hundreds of entrants take part in the awards each year, which are then whittled down to short-lists of up to six finalists in 16 separate categories.

This year's runners-up who reached the finals from across the borough include the Swan Spectacular at WWT Martin Mere Wetland Centre in Burscough in the Visitor Experience Award category; Infusions Cafe Bistro, Burscough in the Taste Lancashire Award round; the West Tower exclusive wedding venue, Ormskirk in the Wedding Venue Award category; and the Artisan Foodworks, Burscough in the Lancashire Producers and Makes Award section.

Ruth Connor from Marketing Lancashire said: "The Awards are all about Lancashire's amazing tourism businesses, experiences and of course our people; they are about celebrating and recognising the quality that we have in our tourism industry that attracts over 64million people to the county."

New vicar takes up dual role at West Lancs parishes

CHRIST Church in Parbold and All Saints Church in Appley Bridge have a new vicar.

The Reverend Sue Timmins has moved from Manchester to take on the dual role in West Lancashire.

The 52-year-old was officially welcomed to her new parishes on Sunday (November 13) at Christ Church by the Bishop of Blackburn, the Right Reverend Julian Henderson, and the Archdeacon of Blackburn, the Venerable Mark Ireland.

Following the service in front of a huge congregation from both churches, a reception was held at All Saints School in Appley Bridge.

Sue, who was born in Manchester, was a civil engineer before being ordained when she was 30, training for the priesthood at St John's Nottingham before becoming a curate in Buckinghamshire.

She was a vicar at Pendlebury in Manchester for 15 years until July 2015 when she spent five months volunteering with a Christian organisation in Nigeria.

Since returning to England at the end of 2015 she has continued voluntary work with the same organisation in Europe and ministering to churches in Manchester that were between parish priests.

She said: "We have a strong focus in our Diocesan Vision 2026 to make disciples, to witness and to grow leaders for Jesus Christ, and I am looking forward to seeing how God will lead us on together in our own part of that journey."

Reverend Sue Timmins after the service of induction with the Bishop of Blackburn (right) and the Archdeacon of Blackburn at Christ Church in Parbold

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Members of the Burscough Methodist Players celebrate raising funds for Ormskirk Hospital's Neonatal Unit

Drama group hit the high notes for worthy causes

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

MEMBERS of a local drama group hit the high notes at the double when they raised more than £2,000 for two local good causes.

Around 40 members of the Burscough Methodist Players performed songs from American rock superstar Bruce Springsteen's iconic 'Born in the USA' album at two shows to raise funds for Ormskirk Hospital Neonatal Uunit and for the church in Orrell Road, Burscough.

The first performance, staged in front of 140 guests at The Stanley Institute in Liverpool Road North, raised £1,373.89 for the neonatal unit.

And the second, held at Burscough Methodist Church in front of 80 guests, raised £700 for the church itself.

Karen Wareing, who is a member of Burscough Methodist Players, as well as the manager of the neonatal unit, received the cheque on behalf of the hospital.

Lesley Wilde from Burscough Methodist Players said: "Everyone worked so hard from June onward practising weekly. It was extremely hard work but everyone agreed it was well worth it.

"The tickets sold out within weeks and both shows were sell-outs so 220 people were treated to brilliant evenings of dancing and singing with coffee, tea, Coca-Cola, chocolate brownies, muffins, popcorn, jelly beans and American hard gums!

"We raised the funds through ticket sales, raffles and an auction."

Got a story? Ring the News Desk on 01704 392400

Boutique to host Children in Need fundraiser event

STAFF at an Ormskirk boutique are hosting a fundraising event for Children in Need on Friday (November 18).

Helen Suarez from Hello Baby Boutique in Burscough Street has organised the event which will run from 10am to 4pm and will include free treats, a free raffle for children and the chance to win a £20 voucher.

She will also be donating a percentage of sales on the day to Children in Need, the BBC's charity for disabled children and young people in the UK.

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A Magical Christmas at the Chapel Gallery

Images: Lempen Puppets & Emily Thatcher, Rings

Visit the Chapel Gallery this Christmas and discover a host of free events, activities and markets.

West Lancashire Borough Council's public art gallery launches its Christmas programme on Friday 25th November, the same date as the Ormskirk Christmas Lights Switch-On, with a free festive market, family activities, caricatures and complementary mulled-wine (Age 18+, one per person while stocks last). This is the first Market of a 3-day event, with great stalls, free puppet shows and calligraphy demos with make your own bunting sessions across Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th November too.

Enter the Winter Tales exhibition to find an enchanted forest with woodland creatures, and a variety of original prints, paintings and three-dimensional works.

The Chapel Gallery shop offers a wide range of jewellery, homeware, prints and decorations by the very best UK based designer/makers, and the Café's Christmas Menu is full of warming, winter fare.

Other highlights in the Chapel Gallery Christmas Events Programme, include a visit from the legendary Lempen Puppets. The am-A-zing Thing will take place on Saturday 17th December, at 11am and 2.30pm. This is an imaginative journey through some well-known Grimm stories with puppets, acting and live music.

Tickets £4.00/£15.00 Family Ticket. (2 Adults & 2 Children or 1 Adult & 3 Children) Performance suitable for children aged 5+. Places are limited, please contact the Gallery to book.

For a full programme of Chapel Gallery Christmas Events & Activities, contact the gallery: 01695 571327, chapel.gallery@westlancs.gov.uk or www.chapelgallery.org.uk

Have a Magical Christmas...

A Free weekend of Great Stalls, Free Entertainment and a Festive Atmosphere at the Chapel Gallery.

Ormskirk Christmas Lights Switch-On Market

Fri 25 November: 12-8pm.
Special Event: 6-8pm

Plus: Free Caricatures*, Family Activities and Complementary Mulled-Wine. 6-8pm**

Makers' Market, Art & Craft

Sat 26 November: 10am-4pm

Plus: Free Family Activities, Make your own Christmas Decorations and Bunting Demonstrations throughout the day.

Vintage & Handmade Market

Sun 27 November: 10am-4pm

Plus: Free Punch & Judy Shows at 11am, 12:30pm & 3pm, and Calligraphy Demonstrations all day.

**Free caricatures with Mike Bryson.*

Contact the Gallery for the full Christmas Programme of Events & Activities.

**Over 18, one per person, while stocks last.

Chapel Gallery, St. Helen's Road, Ormskirk, Lancashire L39 4QR
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Liliana Gonzalez (2nd right, back row) with trainers and members of Burscough Diving Club

Pension company's cash boost for young divers

YOUNG divers from across West Lancashire are set to benefit from a generous donation to their club - thanks to a family connection.

Liverpool-based pension services provider, MyCSP, donated £200 to Burscough Diving Club whose members include the young daughter of the company's employee partner, Liliana Gonzalez.

The welcome boost, donated from the MyCSP Community Fund, will be used by the club to buy more new equipment.

The club trains in Burscough and Skelmersdale each week and runs competitive and recreational programmes all year round with a number of team members often making it to national level competitions.

Liliana Gonzalez, whose six-year-old daughter Savanna is a keen member of the diving club, said: "The club provides a professional and fun opportunity for children to get involved in this fantastic sport. They're all hard-working dedicated children and love what they do.

"The confidence it builds and the friendships they make are worth it on their own - their diving success is an added bonus!"

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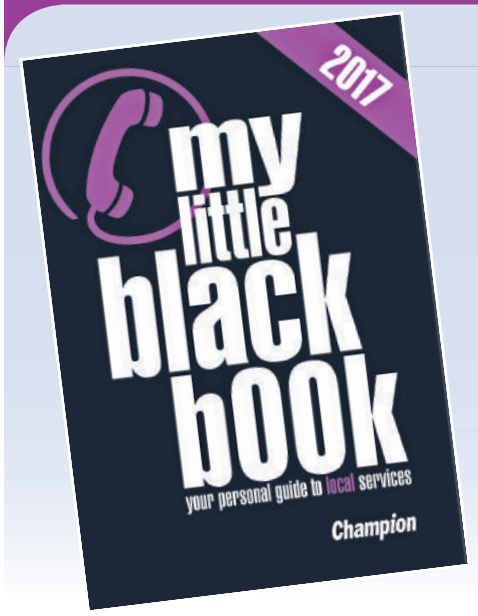

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Borough remembers those who made the ultimate sacrifice

Paying their respects... members of the armed forces, veterans and civic dignitaries at the Remembrance Sunday ceremony at Ormskirk St Anne's Church war memorial

Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Liz Savage and her consort Councillor Noel Delaney chat to veterans after last Friday's service in Ormskirk town centre to mark Armistice Day

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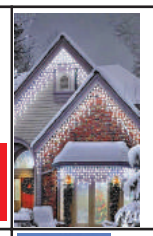

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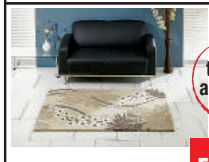

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Design apron for dame

THE Southport Dramatic Club is launching a competition for its family pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk.

They are inviting local children aged 14 or under to submit their designs for an apron to be worn by Dame Ophelia Beetroot during the show.

The winner will also win a family ticket for the Panto (two adults and up to two children) for the matinee performance on January 1 2017, and the chance to meet Jack, Alice and the rest of the cast after the show.

This is a new version of the classic family favourite with a whole host of wonderful characters including the hero, Jack, and the love of his life Alice, the bumbling Squire Fitzloosely and his Hench-men Barmpot & Bailey, a far-away Giant, Spider-like Witches, street-wise fairies and the cow. From beanstalks to the Giant's castle in the sky, the SDC can't wait to see your colourful designs.

The rules of the competition are: All entrants must be 14 years old or under as at December 16 2016; Designs should be in colour and can be either drawn by hand or designed on computer; Designs must be submitted on A4 paper (preferably not folded), and drawn in portfolio dimension; and The Judge's decision is final.

John Delahunty as Tickles and Paul Wilkinson as Dame Ammonia in the 2015 SDC's production of Sleeping Beauty

Designs should be sent to Jack and the Beanstalk Competition, Little Theatre, Hoghton Street, Southport, PR9 0PA by 11am on Monday, November 28, and include their name, address, date of birth, contact telephone number and email address. The winning entrant will be contacted by December 5.

Invitation to beat winter blues and visit gallery

RESIDENTS are being invited to beat the winter blues and come along to the Chapel Gallery in Ormskirk to enjoy its latest event.

Visitors can see Alice return from her Wonderland, Jack scramble down his beanstalk, and see Shakespearean fairies emerge from their forests at the Winter Tales exhibition.

This event opens this Saturday (November 19) at the West Lancashire Borough Council run-gallery with free family friendly activities, including how to make a snowy landscape.

Throughout the winter months visitors are invited to explore this exhibition, discovering an array of artworks that will fascinate and delight. The exhibition runs until Saturday, January 21.

This is an exhibition inspired by storytelling: enchanting fables, exotic tales and personal narratives. Exhibiting Artists are Jac Balmer, Mychael Barratt, Mary Campbell, Val Jackson, Shirlee McGuire, Judy Musselle, Ruth Packham, Gill Smith, Steve Talbot, Mark Uttley and Louise Wood.

The annual Objects of Desire exhibition starts today (Wednesday, November 16) and offers visitors the chance to pick up a Christmas gift from a selection of some of the best contemporary craft in the UK. Items on sale include: glassware, ceramics, jewellery, limited edition prints, textiles and accessories. There's nothing mass produced in this showcase, which runs until Saturday, January 21, as everything is lovingly created by the maker.

Councillor Yvonne Gagen, portfolio holder for leisure, said: "Don't miss these great events at the Chapel Gallery which will really help brighten up the coming winter months."

Mary Campbell's A Khan Dreamt of Frozen Lands.

Chance to see biggest touring burlesque show

THE producers of the UK's biggest touring burlesque show – An Evening of Burlesque – bring the traditional art form up to date with an all-new theatre show coming to the Southport theatre this Thursday (November 17) at 8pm.

Fifty Shades of Burlesque promises to take burlesque "to the next, spine-tingling level."

The show's producer Michael Taylor said: "Now it's time to take all of burlesque's elements – elegance, classic beauty, couture costumes and exotic themes, and bring it well and truly into the 21st Century."

Michael describes 50 Shades of Burlesque as "vaudeville gone volatile.

"Burlesque all-stars drawn from across the world appear as never seen before.

"It's the hottest, most provocative extravaganza ever to grace the stage."

The show is strictly over-18s only and not for the easily offended. There is a prize for the most outrageously-dressed member of the audience.

The show is hosted by Polly Rae. Polly Rae is a burlesque superstar, chanteuse, teacher and producer renowned for her unique style.

She is famed for bringing Burlesque to London's West End in The Hurly Burly Show with William Bakker (Kylie Minogue, Britney Spears, Rhianna) and The Soho Burlesque Club in London's Hippodrome.

Spain's number one pianist visiting Parbold

DOUGLAS Music is to present a concert by international pianist, Javier Perianes, acknowledged as Spain's No. 1 concert pianist, this Saturday (November 19) at 7.45 pm in the Arena Auditorium, Parbold Village Hall.

Javier was awarded the National Music Prize in 2012 by the Ministry of Culture of Spain, and his flourishing international career already spans five continents with world-famous orchestras in some of the most prestigious venues on every continent.

He arrives in Parbold after a month-long tour of North and South America.

His performances have been praised as 'unforgettable' for their 'refined taste', while his playing displays rare 'modesty and utter brilliance' and 'a fearlessness and brilliance that erases all other performances'.

Javier Perianes

Javier's Parbold concert includes Schubert's much-loved final sonata, a work acknowledged as one of the great masterpieces for piano, with great contrasting melodies and drama.

Javier is about to record this work for Harmonia Mundi. As well as more works by Schubert and Debussy, Javier includes a piece by Spanish composer, Manuel De Falla, which evokes their homeland's province of Andalusia. This virtuoso work was originally written for the piano legend, Anton Rubenstein.

In partnership with West Lancs Dial-a-Ride, Douglas Music has set up a Ticket and Ride scheme. Douglas Music has partnered with West Lancashire's Dial a Ride to offer a subsidised mini-bus service to and from its concerts for members of the audience who would love to come to the events but who cannot use public transport or for whom it is not available at the time of the concerts and do not have regular use of a car.

The cost of a return journey from pick-up point to the Parbold concerts and back will be £4 in addition to the cost of the ticket.

To book Ticket and Ride, first book your concert ticket at Douglas Music's Box Office and then contact Dial a Ride. Telephone 01704 893373 between 9am, and 2pm weekdays or leave a message to reserve a seat on the bus and to make the pick up and drop-off arrangements.

As part of Douglas Music's commitment to the NW community it has maintained its admission price for students/young persons at £5 for any concert.

Douglas Music is supported by the Arts Council, England, Lancashire County Council and West Lancashire Borough Council.

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BIKES

APOLLO HONEYBEAR Bike with stabilises, 9" frame, pink and yellow, suit 4-5 year old £10 ono Birkdale 01704-568606 or 07859-935406

MOUNTAIN BIKE (bespoke) used twice, Merida Matts 50, quick release wheels, disc brakes, aluminium frame,originally cost £575, excellent xmas gift only £300 07500803554

MOUNTAIN BIKE Mans bike with black frame and 15 sis Shimano gears. Rides very well. Good condition. Ainsdale. £45 01704560627

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LADIES SHOES large selection, flats, unworn £20 the lot, can deliver locally. Long leather full length flared designer, sizeM £150 no offers 01704 884564

LADIES TROUSERS 2 cream pairs, unworn, 3 white and one black £5 each size 20/22. 07523 210994

WINTER BOOTS worn only once, bought wrong size 5-6 £4. 0151 526 1242

LEATHER JACKET mens, dark brown XL/XXL almost new £60. Suede anorak XL/XLL new £50. 07977 344241

LADIES DRESSES and shrugs, sparkly, fringed, sequinned, beaded, lacy, ideal for parties £20 each, Shrugs £10 size 20/22. 07523 210994

FOOTBALL SHIRTS authentic 2000-2002 puma retro one2one home and away football shirts one yellow, one blue/white xl £15.00 each 07790791733

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SUBUTEO 1960'S Continental Display Edition Boxed call for further info. £25 Also Belgium Team Boxed Ainsdale and £15 07599 724050

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HOME ENTERTAINMENT

CREAM CURTAINS Dunelm Mill cream jacquard 90 x 90 very good condition dry cleaned £49 Formby location 01704 872347

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HOUSE AND HOME

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VACCUM CLEANER bagless, upright dyson dc14, excellent suction, can deliver £40 Southport 214498

FILING CABINET Office Filing Cabinet 3 Drawers, beech melamine finish. In very good condition. £25.00. 01704 875960

LINED CURTAINS One pair 60" wide, 72" drop Black. One pair 64" wide, 72" drop Red. Excellent Condition. £10 or £5 Pair 07951 846017

CANE SUITE large sofa, 2 chairs £60. 01704 231225

SOFA BED guest, immaculate, used twice, single size £80. buyer collects. 0151 286 6896

CHRISTMAS TREE artificial 5ft, free decorations £12. Dinner plates, pink rose pattern, gold rimmed £1.25 each. 01704 531694

BEECH TABLE with black granite insets and 6 high back chairs, black leather seats, vgc, ex stokers £100. 07710 448292

TABLETOP OVEN with grill and rotisserie, never been used £40. 01704 538452

COFFEE AND LAMP tables, italian, , almost new from stokers, was £950 accept £250. 01704 545500 or 07866 048547

DEEP FAT FRYER modern, white, Swan used twice £10. wicker chairs, small x 2, nearly new £10 each. 0151 284 9148

KINGSIZE BEDSPREAD dun-elm, cream surround, hydrangea flowers centre panel, as new £25. 01704 576121

CORNER TV-TABLE black/chrome, 3 tier W106xD45xH53 cams gc £20 ono 01695 722599

THERMAL BLACKOUT roller blinds x 2, new, unopened, colour red, 180cm width x 160cm drop £20 for both. 01704 893755

TRUNK ornate camphor wood trunk £25.00 After 6 pm 01704 566482

DROP LEAF table light oak colour, with four chairs, ideal for a kitchen £100 01515316937

HORNSEY POTTERY 6 dinner & 6 tea plates, 6 cups & saucers, 2 large storage jars. Brown/orange. Excellent condition. £25 01515265710

CORDLESS DRILL Worx 12 volt drill model WX12DD, hardly used bargain. Complete with spare battery, charger and carrying case. £15 07756 733 748

GLASS BOWLS 6 cut glass bowls 1 large bowl trifle punch 4 smaller no chips bootle £5 01512870112

ELECTRIC FIRE With coloured glass stones H 30cm W73 cm D 22cm with surround £50.00 01704 538825

MISC

LEATHER HOLDALL weekender bag. Telescopic handle and wheels. As new. £60 ono 07766244582

LARGE DAPPLE ROCKING HORSE £40 01695571291

BOXED TRAILER Inside Measurement 45x30 inches, length overall 70 inches with Ladder Rack £60 Tel 01695 632553

SMALL LADDER small aluminium ladder with hooks near the end would suit a lads bunkbeds £15 ono 01704 532648

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MISC

RECORDS WANTED indie, rock & roll, 60's pop and beat, rock, folk, punk etc. Bought for cash. Cigarette & bubble gum cards also bought. 01704 566210 after 6pm

PA SYSTEM 12 Channel mixer, EQ and effects processor with protection limiter, Mini and CD players, speakers 2 flight cases, 1000watts £695 01704579867

THERMOS TRAVEL Cups x 2 brand new unused red and blue ex condition £10 07708836403

BLYSS DEHUMIDIFIER 2.1 litre capacity white in colour, timer,-can be fitted with continuous hose cost new £160 excellent condition £65 01695 728281

VIBRATING MASSAGER and heat, rechargeable, new still in box £15. 01704 461083

PANDORA BRACELET 18cm, 6 charms, 2 spacers, one clip also safety chain, cost £300 bargain at £125. 0151 284 9148

MYTEK SPEAKERS good cond, covers, stands, leads, ideal for band, disco, 26"H x 18"W x 16"D £150. 0151 520 0617

SMALL WASHBASIN White Twfords wall mounted basin (45w 38d) with gold finish classic taps and waste. Really nice condition. £30 01772816637

THOMAS KINKADE Winter festival musical LED Christmas carnival sky swing decoration 13inch tall. plays 8 Christmas carols. cost £100 will accept £70 01514741840

THOMAS KINKADE Crystal glass snowman. 8 inches tall featuring snowy bungalow scene. Comes with lantern accessory. Costs £45 will accept £25 01514741840

MOBILITY

WALKING FRAME on wheels, brand new, never used H83cm x D21cm x W18cm £30. 07789 143415

TRYWALKER wheeled, zipped bag, brakes, basket vgc £20. 01704 548936

MOBILITY SCOOTER shop rider £160. 0151 476 1742

WALKING FRAME never used £8. 2 ladders 15ft £10. piano stool £5ono. Scaffold hoist, 100ft rope £15. new york boots 7"8"nine £8. 0151 378 0492

MOBILITY SCOOTER Roma Sovereign shoprider 4 wheel scooter. Max 4mph, 20 mile range.Little use from new.Removable/adjustable seat/steering. VGC. £275 01704 220165

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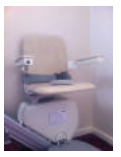

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BABY TABLE folding, baby bath with safety seat as new, no texts £20. Moses basket, stand, baby clothes, as new £20 no-texts. 07564 223114

BABY GATE good condition ideal for small child, first to see will buy £10 01515316937

BIRTH POOL la bassine birth pool includes Liner, Cover, Air-Pump, WaterPump, Hose, Connector, Floor Sheet etc. New, not used. £80 (cost £140) 01695 421902

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BADMINTON RAQUETS x 2 ex cond, £5 each. 0151 293 4722

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FISHERPRICE CASTLE Fisher price imaginext castle with figures and lights and sounds also includes dragon with sound effects excellent condition £20 07731314903

ZIP SCOOTER bought from smiths toys, large type good condition cost £100, only £35 first to see will buy 01515316937

PARKERS "MASTERPIECE" GAME 3-6 players for age 10+ with instruction leaflet in original box not used £10 07821417560/07855222552

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15th November

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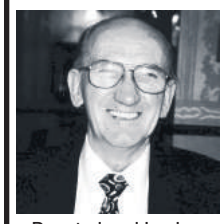
Loved and remembered always, especially on your birthday.
Wife Jean, Daughter Deborah, Grandchildren Jasmine and Elliot.
xxxx

DEATHS

EILEEN LECK
29th October 2016
aged 88 years
Peacefully at home in Skelmersdale

Eileen's funeral will take place at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 17th November at 2.00pm.Enquiries to Cookson Tyrer, Burscough.01704 897770.Family flowers only please.Donations to Dementia UK if desired.

BRENNAN JOSEPH
Died Peacefully in Hospital surrounded by family on the 3rd November 2016
Aged 84 years



Devoted and Loving Husband of Mary

Loving Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather who will be sadly missed

Funeral to be held at Wigan Crematorium on the 22nd November at 1pm
For further details please contact Banks of Orrell 01695622272

DEATHS

MAGEE ROBERT EDWARDS (BOB)
13th November 2016
Peacefully in hospital surrounded by his loving family aged 86 years
of Skelmersdale

The dearly loved Husband of Enid and devoted Dad, Grandad and Great Grandad. Funeral service on Tuesday 22nd November 2016 at 10.45am at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Alzheimer's Society, The British Heart Foundation or a charity of the donors choice. All enquiries to H Hardman & Co, Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk, Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

LATTIMER BETTY (Elizabeth)
6th November 2016
Aged 97 years

Devoted Wife of the late Ted (Edward), much loved Mother to Edward, loving Granny to Laura, Ellie and George. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 17th November at 12:40pm. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu of flowers are being gratefully received for Queenscourt at Home. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086

HOWARD FRIEDA
1st November 2016
Aged 103 Years

Devoted Wife of the late Jack, much loved Mum of Peter and Daughter in law Anne, loving Grandma of Paul and Nik, Great Grandmother of Ellie, Jack, Skye and Eden, cherished Auntie to Hazel. Frieda will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service at St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, Churchtown on Friday 18th November at 12:00pm followed by interment in the churchyard. Family flowers only please but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Connell Court Amenity Fund. Donations and enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

DEATHS

SWARBRICK MARGUERITE MAY
7th November 2016
Aged 80 years

Loving Wife of George. Devoted Mum to Gill & John and David & Judith, Cherished Grandma to Andrew, Mark, Scott and Leah, and Great Grandma to Jamie and Olivia. Marguerite passed away peacefully following a short illness. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Family flowers only by request but donations in memory of Marguerite and being gratefully received for Alzheimer's Society. Funeral service will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium on Friday 18th November at 1.00pm. All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors, 128B Burscough Street, Ormskirk. Tel: 01695 572997

GARSIDE MARJORIE
10th November 2016
Aged 94 years

Loving Mother to Gillian and Philip, Granny to Katy, Fiona, Mark and Ben, Great Granny to Jamie, Daniel, Evie Lila and Elena.
Family flowers only by request.
Funeral service will take place at Emmanuel Church, Ormskirk on Friday 28th November at 11.30am.
All enquiries to Hunters Funeral Directors, 128B Burscough Street, Ormskirk L39 2EY
Tel: 01695 572997

HOULGRAVE COLIN
Peacefully on 10th November 2016
Aged 77 years

Loving and devoted Husband of Eileen. Much loved Uncle of Pamela and Stuart, and true friend to John. Funeral Service at St. Cuthberts Church, Halsall on Monday 21st November 2016 at 10.30am followed by committal at West Lancashire Crematorium. Family flowers please by request, but donations if so desired for St Cuthberts PCC. Donations and further enquiries please to Lisa Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton Tel: 01695 424888

DEATHS

BURDEKIN CHRISTOPHER
3rd November 2016
Aged 77 years

Loving Dad of Owen, Nicholas, David and Rachel. Proud Granddad of Julian, Adrian, Eliza and Samuel. Funeral service at West Lancashire Crematorium on 17th November at 10:45. No flowers please but if desired, donations are being gratefully received for the Palliative Care Charity Fund at Southport Hospital. Donations and enquiries to R. Banks & Son (Funerals) Ltd., Halliwell House, 758/768 Ormskirk Road, Pemberton, Wigan WN5 8BB. Tel: 01942 222156.

IN MEMORIAM

KENYON B.E.M CLIFFORD
18th November 2015

Deep in our hearts you will always stay, loved and remembered every day.
Love from Wife Myra, Son Christopher, Daughter Lorna and All The Family. xxx

HALSALL ANNE
11.11.2009

MUM
Things we feel most deeply, are the hardest things to say.
Dearest Mum, we loved you, in a very special way.
If we could have one lifetime wish, one dream that could come true.
We'd pray to God with all our hearts, for yesterday and you.
Love and miss you
Mum
Donna, Suzanne, John and Stephen

ANNE
My heart is heavy with sadness and tears, and always will be.
"Arthur's Irish Rose"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FRANK QUAYLE

Margaret and family wish to thank all our relatives,friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy through their cards and generous donations for the coronary care unit at Southport Hospital. Special thanks to Doctors and staff at Hall Green Surgery and all staff at Stocks Hall Homecare and Nursing Home Skelmersdale for their loving care and kindness for Frank and all the Family. Also to Peter Giles for is Eulogy which truly celebrated Franks life and everyone at Skelmersdale Funeral Services for their dignified handling of the funeral arrangements and treating Frank with true kindness and compassion whilst supporting the family through their grief.

To book your FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS call 01704 392 392 adverts.champnews.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

Licensing Act 2003
Notice of application for a New Premises Licence

NAME OF APPLICANT:
Co-operative Group Food Limited
ADDRESS OF PREMISES:
Co-op, (former Ropers Arms Public House), 52 Wigan Road, Ormskirk L39 2AU (New Build)
The licensable activities will be for the sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises between Monday-Sunday 06:00-23:00. Conditions will apply.
Anyone wishing to make a representation to this application may do so by 7 December 2016.
A record of the application made to the Licensing Authority will be kept on a register at the address given below and the register may be inspected during normal office hours.
All representations regarding this application MUST BE IN WRITING and sent to: West Lancashire Borough Council, Licensing Service, Robert Hodge Centre, Stanley Way, Skelmersdale, West Lancashire, WN8 8EE or www.westlancs.gov.uk
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and is subject to a maximum fine of £5000 on summary conviction for the offence.

WARD HADAWAY

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(A506 LIVERPOOL ROAD, BICKERSTAFFE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1.No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of A506 Liverpool Road, from a point 40 metres south west of the property known as "Oakdene Cottage" to a point 150 metres south west of the property known as "Smithy Cottage" in the borough of West Lancashire.

2.The prohibition will be operative from 0900 hours on Thursday 24th November 2016 until 1700 hours to Friday 23rd December 2016 or, until completion of the works within this period.

3.An alternative route for vehicles affected by the closure is as follows; A506 Liverpool Road - Long Lane - Parrs Lane - B5197 Prescot Road - A506 Liverpool Road and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow essential new water main construction works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT16/08/5398/ARH]

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OLD SKELMERSDALE
- *Round includes:* Blaguegate Ln, Bromilow Rd, Firswood Rd, Taylor St, Dickets Ln, Ormskirk Rd, Hollands Ln
- *Round includes:* Woodrow, High St (part), Whitestocks, Woodcroft, Wolverton
- *Round includes:* Windrows, Wigan Rd, Windgate

UPHOLLAND
- *Round includes:* Alma Walk, Alma Hill, Brookfield Rd, Douglas Ave, Hall Green, Hall Green Cl, Tower Hill Rd

ORMSKIRK/AUGHTON/BURSCOUGH
- *Round includes:* Liverpool Rd South (part), Lordsgate Dr, Clayton House Gdns
- *Round includes:* Churchfields, Church St, Park Rd, Aughton St (part), Derby St West (part), Church Walks, The Stiles
- *Round includes:* Grammar School Gardens, Grammar School Court, Pinfold Rd, Merchant Rd, Mulbery Cl, Silk Court, Warpers Way, Spinner Mews
- *Round includes:* Halsall Ln, Lasall Ct, Cottage Ln (part), Church Hill Rd, The Reeds, The Avenue
- *Round includes:* Liverpool Road North, Orrell Ln, Victoria St, Mart Ln, Orrell Mews, Peets Mill

HOLMESWOOD
- *Round includes:* Holmeswood Rd, Smithy Ln

RUFFORD
- *Round includes:* Beech Cl, Liverpool Rd, Thornton Cl, Station Rd, Manor House Cl, Church Cl, Diamond Jubilee Rd, Douglas Cl
- *Round includes:* Brick Kiln Ln, The Hawthornes, Hesketh Gn, New Rd, Willow Gn, Oasis Cl

SCARISBRICK
- *Round includes:* Southport Rd (part), Bescar Brow Ln, Bullens Ln, Jacksmere Ln

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LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(LAFFORD LANE, UP HOLLAND, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1.No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Lafford Lane, from a point outside the entrance to Holland Hall Hotel to a point outside the entrance to Dean Wood Golf Course in the borough of West Lancashire.

2.The prohibition will be operative daily from 0800 hours until 1600 hours on Monday November 2016 to Friday 9th December 2016 or, until completion of the works within this period.

3.An alternative route for vehicles affected by the closure is as follows; Lafford Lane - A577 Grove Road - College Road - Stoney Brow - School Lane - Lafford Lane and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow essential drainage and highway maintenance works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT16/08/5415/ARH]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(DARK LANE, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Dark Lane, Ormskirk, for a distance of 25 metres either side of a point outside of the property known as "The Cottage" in the borough of West Lancashire.

2. The prohibition will be operative from 1700 hours on Friday 18th November 2016 until 1700 hours on Friday 9th December 2016, or until completion of the works within this period.

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:
i. Dark Lane - Blythe Lane - Hob Cross Lane - B5240 Hall Lane - A5209 Briars Lane - A5209 Square Lane - A59 Liverpool Road South- A59 High Lane - B5319 Burscough Road - A570 Derby Street - Derby Street - Greetby Hill - Dark Lane
ii. Dark Lane - Greetby Hill - Derby Street - A570 Stanley Street - A577 Moor Street - A577 St Helens Road - A570 Park Road - A570 Church Street - A570 Derby Street West - B5319 Burscough Road - A59 High Lane - A59 Liverpool Road South - A5209 Square Lane - A5209 Briars Lane - B5240 Hall Lane - Hob Cross Lane - Blythe Lane - Dark Lane

The temporary closure is necessary to enable essential new water main construction works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref-HRiT/16/8/5701/ARH]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(COBBS BROW LANE, NEWBURGH, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) (No.2) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle from proceeding over that length of Cobbs Brow Lane, Newburgh from its junction with Beacon Lane to its junction with Tabbys Nook in the Borough of West Lancashire.

An alternative route for all traffic affected by the closure is as follows:
Beacon Lane - Higher Lane - A5209 Ash Brow - Cobbs Brow Lane and vice versa

The temporary closure is necessary to enable essential highway maintenance works to be carried out.

The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Wednesday 23rd November 2016, and Thursday 24th November 2016, or until completion of the works within this period.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/16/8/5606/ARH]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

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27015	28537
175549	361385
191901	26638
362804	12034
13016	19682
29228	18287

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(STATION ROAD, HESKETH WITH BECCONSALL, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Station Road, from its junction with Shore Road to its junction with Chapel Road, in the Borough of West Lancashire.

2. The prohibition will be operative daily from 0700 hours until 1700 hours on Friday 25th November 2016 until Wednesday 30th November 2016 or until completion of the works within this period.

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Shore Road - Chapel Road - and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow essential highways maintenance works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/16/08/5495/ARH]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(REDGATE, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.

1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over the whole length of Redgate, Ormskirk;

2. The prohibition will be operative daily between 0700 hours and 1700 hours on Monday 21st November 2016 and Tuesday 22nd November 2016 or, until completion of the works within this period

3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: Cottage Lane and Vice Versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable essential highway maintenance works to be carried out.

Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/16/08/5607/ARH]

Lancashire County Council
www.lancashire.gov.uk

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2016/0863/FUL Connect the building as one, creating passageway from the existing accommodation through to the existing garage space. Convert part of the ground floor garage into living accommodation to include a kitchen area. Convert the area above the garage into living accommodation to include an additional two bedrooms, bathroom and en-suite. Create single storey extension to connect the existing living accommodation with the proposed new layout. New extension to include siting room/dining room. New vehicular/pedestrian access to include shared access to No. 30 Parliament Street at 32A Parliament Street, Up Holland.
Application No: 2016/1061/FUL Conversion of a group of three barns to dwelling including a single storey link extension and a two storey link extension at Ormeshaws Farm, 12 Harridge Lane, Scarisbrick.
Application No: 2016/1130/LBC Listed Building Consent - Conversion of group of three barns into a dwelling including single storey rear link extension and two storey rear link extension at Ormeshaws Farm, 12 Harridge Lane, Scarisbrick.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI — Dated: 16th November 2016
Director of Development and Regeneration — PDNOT923

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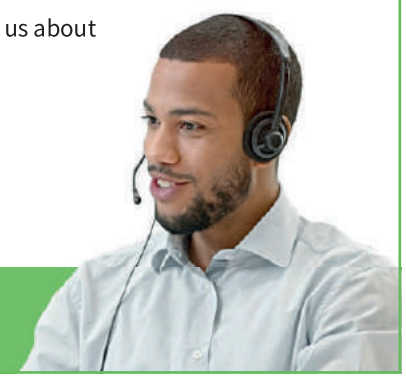

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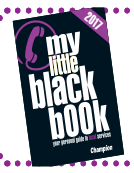

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13 FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC AUTOMATIC, panther black, alloys, A/C, Bluetooth etc, 9,000 miles only **£8,999**
13 FORD C-MAX ZETEC 1.6 TDCi, midnight sky or panther black, alloys, A/C etc, £30 tax **from £8,999**
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Life On Cars
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NORMALLY I emerge from the NEC searching for my next classic car, but this year it was lozenges and a comfier pair of shoes.

The amount of walking and talking reflects how vast the Classic Motor Show has become, and why car nuts from right across the North West are prepared to drive two hours to see it.

Think 2,500 old cars stretched out over five enormous halls, the chance to meet the celebs of the motoring world and stand after stand offering parts for sale, technical advice and swish gadgets to accompany you on your next drive. Here in the UK there's nothing quite like our annual NEC bash.

You'd think that going to a show that's roughly the same every year for the best part of a decade would mean I'd have seen it all by now, but each visit always chucks up cars I didn't even know existed.

How about a Volvo P18000S convertible, a ragtop version of Ford's Cortina Lotus, a Bond Bug in white rather than the ubiquitous orange, or a stretch limo made from, erm, a Skoda Estelle? My particular favourite this year was the rather poshly named Rover 90 Drop Head Coupé by Mulliner Park Ward – essentially a P4 turned into a stylish convertible by Pininfarina and then coachbuilt by the people behind a generation of Rolls-Royces. Only two were ever made, and one of them was there this year.

I'll even put up with rubbish food, the eye-watering £12 a day to park, and the misery of queuing on the M42 because there is nowhere quite like the NEC show for taking the pulse of Britain's love of old cars and discovering that it's very much alive and well.

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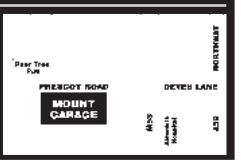

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Struggling Linnets hit for four

Mossley 4
Burscough 0

BURSCOUGH conceded four against a team who hadn't won a league match at home since April.

The Linnets, sat bottom of the table, were hoping to make up some ground on the sides above them and fellow strugglers Mossley provided a chance to put some much-needed points on the board.

But the home side got off to a flying start and never looked back after they took a sixth-minute lead. A long ball upfield by Liam Flynn was controlled by Dave Short who out-foxed his marker before calmly slotting home.

More chances followed. Jordan Bove was denied by Burscough keeper Marcus Burgess and Jason Hill saw his deflected shot hit the bar before Mossley doubled their advantage on 32 minutes as Matty Burke pounced from 10 yards after Burgess had blocked Mike Fish's effort.

Damase Kiwanda had a great chance to make it 3-0 but his shot was blocked on the line.

Burscough had their first effort on target early in the second half when Denis Sherrif's shot popped up in front of Flynn who somehow managed to turn the ball over the bar for a corner.

Burscough struggling to cope with the Mossley forwards

However, Mossley stretched the lead on 55 minutes. Kiwanda picked up the ball on the halfway line and powerfully raced past two defenders before crossing low and hard for Jordan Bove to turn home at the near post.

Tom Fisher, making his first appearance since being injured in pre-season, set up fellow sub Mason Duffy for a close range finish to make it four.

Mossley dominated through to the finish and Fisher came close to making it five but his effort was well saved by Burgess.

Club to host BTEC course for young footballers

SKELMERSDALE United will team up with Coaching Connexions to host a BTEC Level 3 Programme for September 2017.

The partnership will offer boys aged 16 to 19 a full-time, football--based course a The Uretek Stadium.

The programme will further enhance the club's youth structure going forward and will enable a pathway for gifted footballers into the first team.

James Quinn, director of Coaching Connexions, said: "e are joining Skelmersdale United from September but the course we are offering has already been tried and tested with AFC Telford United and Chorley.

"The partnership with AFC Telford has been very exciting, looking back I am very proud at how much we have achieved.

"Highlights from the first year include one player gaining a first team contract and four of the scholarship students being called up to the first team.

"Further, there have been two international football tours to Spain and Holland. This has culminated in all the students gaining valuable work experience with the club and making outstanding academic progress.

"The whole of West Lancashire will benefit from our previous experiences, especially as it will be on their doorstep."

Skelmersdale United FC are holding a trials night at their Uretek Stadium on Thursday, November 24 from 6pm. It is open to any aspiring footballer or any boy of a decent football ability that wants to acquire sports-based skills to take into their future working life.

To book a place on the trial visit www.coachingconnexions.co.uk or call 07879 994 718.

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New arrivals put Skem back to winning ways

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

Skelmersdale United 2
Ilkeston 1

SKELMERSDALE United got revenge for last month's defeat away at Ilkeston by beating them at home.

Manager Tommy Lawson has signed five new players in the last 10 days and the difference it has made to the team is tangible.

Skelmersdale had pushed the Derbyshire-based side from the off and in the opening 14 minutes went close three times.

Visiting goalkeeper Ross Durrant saved low down to his right from Hazeldine and Luke Wall hit the post with a looping ball into the goalmouth before new signing Chad Whyte saw his shot just go the wrong side of the far post.

However, the Skelmersdale supporters didn't have to wait very long for a goal. On 24 minutes Skelmersdale won a corner, Wall swung the ball into the six-yard box and Grogan hoisted himself above everyone else and directed a header over keeper Durrant and into the net.

It was just before the interval when Ilkeston got their first chance and it drew them level. Rory Coleman drove the ball head-height into the box, it was headed down and Malachi Lavelle-Moore stabbed the ball into the net.

Chad Whyte heads fractions wide. Picture by John Driscoll

There had been a spell midway through the first half when the referee flashed four rather unnecessary yellow cards, two to each team and it came back to haunt him on 63 minutes.

Shelton ran at the Skem defence and appeared to go down very easily, giving the referee little choice but to give him a second yellow.

On 77 minutes Skem got their second. Whyte ran on to a long ball from Dylan Smith, his shot went under Durrant but just as it looked odds on to be cleared off the line Hazeldine stuck his foot in and it was a goal.

Ilkeston started to press as Skem fell back deeper, but the new resolve Skelmersdale have came good and they held on fairly comfortably in the end.

Next up for Skem is another home game against Halesowen Town on Saturday.

Spirits high after five signings

SPIRITS are high at Skelmersdale United after Saturday's 2-1 win against Ilkeston and this weekend they have real hopes of building on the win when they host Halesowen Town.

Tommy Lawson brought in five new signings over an eight-day period immediately prior to the Ilkeston game and it does seem to have had the desired effect.

Old-fashioned centre-forward Chad Whyte has come from Marine and his marauding style did add considerably to Skem's threat up front.

Midfielder Michael Grogan has arrived from Warrington Town - he had previously had a three-year spell with AFC Telford United in the National League - and he announced his arrival with a superb headed goal in the 24th minute against Ilkeston.

Paul Foy has done well down the righthand side, having signed for Skelmersdale from Stalybridge Celtic after a brief stay with Burscough.

Two other defenders have signed, Dylan Smith and Jason Jefferies.

The former has made three appearances since signing from Clitheroe, while the latter was with Witton Albion earlier in the season and is expected to have made his debut in the League Cup tie that was scheduled against Colne last night (Tuesday).

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